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Disturbance brewing south of the Marianas. PAGE 2
Villagomez accepts Palacios' invitation to join CNMI 902 team. PAGE 4

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Department of Public Safety Commissioner Anthony Macaranas, far right, acting governor David M. Apatang, and other law enforcement agency heads honor fallen servicemen by presenting a wreath at the Peace Memorial in Susupe last Wednesday.

Over 100 fallen officers honored in peace memorial ceremony

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety hosted the annual National Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony last Wednesday where over 100 fallen law

See OVER on Page 4

CHAMBER VP ON STATE OF THE CNMI ECONOMY

'THE CNMI IS IN CRISIS'

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
The Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday hosted the 2nd Annual Economic Forum which aims to shed light on the CNMI's current economical state and to provide ideas on how to best address issues. Speaking on the CNMI's current economic state, Chamber vice president Joshua Wise shared that the CNMI is in crisis mode.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce warns that should no immediate action be taken to increase visitor arrivals, the CNMI economy faces a complete collapse.

Yesterday, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce hosted 2nd Annual Economic Forum which aims to shed light on the CNMI's current economical state and to provide ideas on how to best address issues.

Speaking on the CNMI's current economic state, Chamber vice president Joshua Wise shared that the CNMI is in crisis mode.

See CRISIS on Page 4

Shin: E-Land's hotels are struggling

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Brian Shin, who is the chief executive officer of E-Land Group and president of Suwaso Corp., said yesterday that their hotels on Saipan are absolutely struggling and if the number of tourists coming to the CNMI won't improve, he doesn't know if all their hotels will survive.

» **Isn't sure if all their hotels will survive**

See HOTELS on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
In this screengrab photo from a YouTube video, Brian Shin, chief executive officer of E-Land Group and president of Suwaso Corp., discloses that their three hotels on Saipan are struggling just like the rest of the hotels during the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs & Gaming meeting yesterday afternoon.

'Owner of Hyatt can't transfer assignment of property in 5 years'

Santos

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Portopia Corp., which owns Hyatt Regency Saipan, is not allowed for any transfer assignment of the hotel property within the first five years under a provision of its land lease agreement with the Department of Public Lands, according to DPL Secretary Teresita A. Santos yesterday.

» **But DPL says they're working on some options**

Santos pointed to such restriction pursuant to Article 9 of the

See HYATT on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
Rib eye takes center stage in the Marianas Chef Competition slated for Saturday, May 18, at the 25th Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival on Saipan.
PAGE 3

BUSINESS
Japanese soufflé pancake restaurant 38 Mitsubachi opened its first location in Micronesia at the back of Lollipops in Garapan last March 8.
PAGE 12

NATION
The number of reported sexual assaults across the military decreased last year, and a confidential survey found a 19% drop in the number of service members who said they had experienced some type of unwanted sexual contact.
PAGE 13

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Marianas Chef Competition highlights rib eye on May 18

Rib eye takes center stage in the Marianas Chef Competition slated for Saturday, May 18, at the 25th Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival on Saipan.

The cook-off at American Memorial Park will challenge 10 chefs to prepare the best rib eye steak dish within an hour, incorporating all local produce provided in a mystery box, beginning at 7pm. Rules and registration forms are available at https://www.mymarianas.com/taste-of-the-marianas-2024/ and at the MVA offices in Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Entertainment for the night on the main stage includes Project Vibe at 5pm, Alallis Cultural Dancers at 5:30pm, Glushko's Dance Academy at 6pm, Daegum Flute South Korea at 7pm, Sky Syllabus of Japan at 7:30pm, Hide Tide at 8:30pm, Flores Sinser at 9pm, and CAB Dancers at 9:30pm.

"We're expecting some steep competition and some interesting trades secrets to be revealed on Saturday as competitors strive to deliver the best rib eye steak," said Marianas Visitors Authority acting managing director Martin Duenas. "Come on down and watch our local cooks and chefs in action at another great night at 'Taste.'"

At last Saturday's (May 11) Oh My Grill (OMG) International Food Challenge, professional eater Sang Hyuk Kwon of Korea bested food fighter Sachiyo Masubuchi of Japan and local competitors in eating the most of two pounds of boneless BBQ chicken, two eight-ounce BBQ steaks, six pieces of BBQ pork spareribs, eight strips of BBQ pork belly, four BBQ hot links sausage, 2 lbs. of red rice, 2 lbs. of macaroni salad, 2 lbs. of papaya coco.

The HANMI-NMTech Pastry Chef Competition will be held on May 25.

Taste of The Marianas is being every Saturday evening during May Marianas Tourism Month at American Memorial Park in the main tourist district of downtown Garapan. The festival features dishes from 29 local hotels and restaurants, live entertainment, food eating competitions, cooking contests, arts and crafts sales, and more.

Food and drink vendors accept credit/debit cards. Tokens are also accepted and may be purchased at the festival or the Marianas Visitors Authority office at 3366 Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, from 1pm to 4pm, Monday through Friday (except holidays). Cash transactions with vendors is prohibited.

MVA

The 25th Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival is held every Saturday evening during May Marianas Tourism Month at American Memorial Park, featuring arts & crafts, food and drinks, live entertainment, nightly contests, and more.

This year's festival eateries include 38 Mitsubachi, Cup Bab Korean Restaurant, Ben-Ki, Yaya's Baked Goods, CK Smokehouse and Salad, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, Fork and Spoon, Great Harvest Bread Co., Herman's Modern Bakery, Lanlan Tea House, Island Grindz, Java Joe's, Kanto 10, Kinpachi, Loco & Taco, Tupu Cane Juice, New Matty's BBQ, Oh My Grill, Surf Club, T-Bar, The Hut, Vi- Lyn's BBQ, Saipan World Resort, Ever Trust 123 Food, Coral Ocean Resort Saipan (May 18 only), MARPAC, Napu Brewing, and WSTCO.

Festival Gold Sponsors are American Memorial Park, Bridge Capital LLC and Dave Electronics Center. Silver Sponsors are Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, EST Rental, IT&E, HANMI, Jonny's Bar and Grill, M&C LLC, Lanlan Tea House, Subway, Coca-Cola, and Foremost.

For more information, contact MVA Community Projects specialist Ray Villagomez at rvillagomez@mymarians.com or at (670) 664-3200. ***(PR)***

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ARTICLES OF DISSOLUTION 4CMC §4602

The undersigned, duly authorized officer of the corporation submitting these Articles of Dissolution, certifies as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is:
   ALL GOOD DENTAL INC.
2. The date the dissolution was authorized: May 10, 2024
3. The resolution approving the approving the dissolution was adopted at a special meeting of the shareholders. There was unanimous written consent of the shareholders to approve the dissolution. One hundred percent of the common stock is owned by the undersigned shareholder.
4. The dissolution is effective on the date of filing these Articles of Dissolution.

The undersigned certifies that the undersigned has read the above statements, is authorized to make this change, and that the statements are true and correct. Signed this 14th day of May, 2024.

/s/
Richard Arbuckle
President

/s/
Richard Arbuckle
(Signature of Officer)

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
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Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

NMHC hereby discloses that on December 11, 2023, **Julie S. Tebuteb,** an immediate family member of **Melvin M. Sablan,** an employee of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, applied for assistance under the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Housing Program.

Said applicant has been determined to be a member of a group or class of low to moderate income individuals intended to be beneficiaries of the assisted activity and is applying to receive generally the same benefits being made available to the group or class. Mr. Sablan is not and shall not be involved in the handling of this grant application.

NMHC discloses this possible conflict pursuant to 24 CFR 92.356 in order to allow any interested persons to comment before the application is considered for an exception under the applicable conflict regulations.

Written comments may be faxed to Fax No.: (670) 234-9451, mailed to P.O. Box 500514, or emailed to cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net on or before **June 3, 2024.**

Dated this 17th day of May, 2024.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

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Villagomez accepts Palacios' invitation to join 902 team

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) accepted on Wednesday Gov. Arnold I. Palacios' invitation for him to join the CNMI team for the 902 talks between the CNMI and U.S. governments.

Villagomez informed Palacios in a letter that he is eager and ready to be part of the CNMI team on behalf of the 23rd House for Section 902 of the Covenant consultations with the U.S. government.

He said he believes that the CNMI's priority issues that Palacios proposes to engage with the U.S. government such as direct financial assistance under Section 702 of the Covenant; tourism and transportation; and access to skilled labor, are pivotal for the Commonwealth's economic growth and sustainability.

"Thank you for the opportunity to partake in attaining our goal to improve the lives of our people through our Covenant with the United States," Villagomez told the governor.

The House speaker said in an interview yesterday that it's always good that they can sit down with the U.S. government and have a real discussion and see what they can come to in terms of the help that the CNMI needs regarding the issues here in the Commonwealth.

"So I think it's very important and it's a very good opportunity for the CNMI and the U.S.," he said.

Last Friday, May 10, Palacios sent similar letters to Villagomez and Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan), inviting them, or their designees, to join the CNMI 902 team.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

NMC's 43rd Commencement Exercise today

Northern Marianas College's 43rd Commencement Exercise will be held today, May 17, 2024 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The event will start at 4pm and will include the conferral of associate and bachelor degrees to the members of NMC's Class of 2024.

Family and friends who would like to view the ceremony online can log on to facebook.com/NMC.Proa. The live stream will start at 4pm ChST.

NMC offices will be closed on that Friday at 12pm for the ceremony. For urgent requests, community members are asked to email nmc@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

GCC campus closed for commencement ceremony

Guam Community College will hold its commencement ceremony today, May 17, 9am at the Calvo Fieldhouse. You can view the ceremony live from the on our Facebook® page at Facebook.com/GuamCC or search @GuamCC.

"Congratulations to our 361 graduates, their loved ones, and support teams. Your GCC family wishes you all the best in all your future endeavors. Thank you for choosing us to be part of your lives," said GCC. ***(PR)***

OVER

From page 1

enforcement officers were honored at the DPS complex in Susupe.

During the ceremony, fallen officers from agencies such as DPS, Department of Corrections, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, CNMI Marshals Services, Customs and Biosecurity, and more were honored.

In honor of the fallen officers, dignitaries like acting governor David M. Apatang joined law enforcement agency heads to lay a wreath before the Peace Memorial across DPS' central office. In addition, candles were carried by friends and families of the fallen and laid at the memorial site in their honor.

Law enforcement agencies also arranged a gun salute and playing of taps.

During last Wednesday's ceremony, DPS Commissioner Anthony Macaranas gave a tear-jerking speech in honor of those in the service who have fallen.

"We gather here in solemn remembrance and heartfelt tribute to honor the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Today, we stand united as a community to remember our fallen heroes, our peace officers who gave their lives to protect and serve. These officers, whose names we honor today, exemplified the highest ideals of our profession. They embodied courage, commitment, and an unwavering sense of duty. Our fallen officers dedicated their lives to a cause greater than themselves. They believed in the fundamental principles of justice and peace. They understood the risks inherent in their duty, yet they chose to serve, to protect, and to stand as the thin blue line that separates order from chaos," he said.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

HOTELS

From page 1

Shin shared the challenges of their three hotels during a Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs & Gaming meeting at the Senate chamber on the Department of Public Lands' proposal to grant a new lease to Suwaso so it could continue to operate its Coral Ocean Resort for another 40 years.

E-Land Group owns the majority share of Suwaso Corp. The company also owns Pacific Islands Club Saipan and Kensington Hotel.

Sen. Corina L. Magofna (Ind-Saipan), who chairs the REDPG Committee that is reviewing DPL's proposal to Suwaso, said they look forward to wrapping this process and hopefully schedule a joint committee meeting with the House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee sometime next week.

She thanked E-land, Suwaso, and DPL for providing all the supporting documents that the committee has requested both sides.

"You have submitted I would say at least 90% to 95% of what we requested and I completely understand some of the documents that you weren't able to submit due to propriety information," the chair told the parties.

During the discussions, Shin said to be completely honest, he believes every hotel on the island is struggling right now and that he cannot say E-Land's hotels are exceptions to that.

He stated that he cannot say they're not considering "any actions" because right now as they speak, this summer, year over year, the flight numbers have been decreasing.

Shin said the Japanese tourism market is virtually non-existent.

"I'm carefully looking at the number of Japanese tourists in our hotels at least, we have less than 10 a week," he said.

Shin said the only Korean national carrier, Asiana Airlines, is pulling out and there's no guarantee that it's going to service the Saipan destination beyond June or July at this point.

"We're trying everything to revive it. But again, all I'm saying is we're also in struggle, but yet, we're trying to do this because we have to be optimistic," said Shin, referring to their proposed land lease renewal agreement with DPL regarding Coral Ocean Resort.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

CRISIS

From page 1

"Businesses have survived the darkest times in our economic history from the end of the garment industry in 2008, to super typhoons, COVID but we're still struggling, and we have no positive outlook. We're now seeing signs that the economy is collapsing, people are leaving, and our population and workforce are declining. Legacy companies are closing their doors and unless anything changes, more businesses will close. We can't take any of these signs lightly and we need to act quickly and make the right decisions," he said.

Wise notes that the recent news of businesses like Hyatt Regency Saipan closing should be alarming as this directly impacts the entire CNMI community.

"When businesses close their doors, that's their way of stopping their own bleeding. They're losing more than they're gaining while trying to stay open. So, leaving is not a loss for corporations but a loss for the people. How is this? Businesses closing means less taxes paid, a reduced government budget, which leads loss of government jobs, services, and benefits. With a smaller budget, that means smaller funding for the Public School System, Medicaid, and more. This is about the entire economy, not just the business community," he said.

Wise further explains that fiscal year 2017 was the last year the CNMI was on track for a healthy and sustainable tourism industry.

"We were recognized by the World Tourism Organization as the third fastest growing tourism destination in the world. We had over 663,000 visitors, and the fourth highest fiscal year arrivals in history. We achieved this with nearly 5,600 flights from three major markets," he said.

Wise adds that as of this year and last, the CNMI is far from 2017 numbers.

"Last year, we reached just over 215,000 arrivals. We are forecasted about 300,000 arrivals this year. That's absolutely not enough. We need at least 500,000 arrivals to break even. This forecast is a 54% loss compared to arrivals in 2017. Hotel occupancy also follows arrivals. We went from 90.89% in 2017 to 37.63% in 2023. Hotel occupancy of 80% is what hotels need to make a profit but 70% is what we need just breakeven. So, at 37% occupancy, which takes into account only HANMI members, is a massive loss. When we take into account the entire island's room inventory from non-HANMI members like guest houses, AirBnbs, our best occupancy we can achieve is just over 25%. This is an over 71% loss compared to our occupancy in 2017," he said.

Based on these numbers, Wise says the CNMI has collected significantly less Hotel Occupancy Tax and Business Gross Revenue Tax.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

HYATT

From page 1

lease agreement in response to Sen. Paul A. Manglona's (Ind-Rota) question if in that agreement Portopia can proceed and open tomorrow under another name, during the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs & Gaming meeting yesterday afternoon on DPL's proposed new lease to Suwaso Corp. to continue the operation of Coral Ocean Resort. Santos said Portopia issued a public announcement permanently closing Hyatt or shutting down business by June 30, 2024, but then has requested if DPL can give them four to six weeks in order for them to secure the area by fencing the perimeters to prevent theft and vandalism. Santos said it was just two years ago when DPL approved the new land lease to Portopia.

She said during their meeting with Hyatt, it was shared that the company was spending close to about $200,000 per month only on electricity although often they were using just solar panels.

The secretary said in addition to that, Hyatt also was spending about $300,000 on operations monthly.

"So it was it was economically not feasible for them to continue operations," Santos said.

Manglona asked why DPL should just remove that restriction to allow Hyatt to open under a new company under the circumstances.

Santos said they are working on some details, which she is just not privy to disclose or reveal.

"But we are working at some options and working on some details with of course our legal counsel, Attorney General," she said.

SOUTH

From page 2

can expect moderate trades through the weekend with a moderate risk for rip currents along east facing reefs.

Ultimately, NWS says at this time, weekend forecasts for this region are with high uncertainty and low confidence, all pending on whether or not formation occurs with the present 93W.

"The American GFS model, traditionally most aggressive in developing tropical cyclones, shows steady development over the outer islands of Chuuk and Yap States Friday and Saturday, with the potential tropical cyclone then heading into the Philippine Sea between Yap and Guam early in the coming week. At this time, the GFS remains an outlier as other forecast models indicate significantly less development through the weekend, with a tropical disturbance pushing west northwest near Palau and Yap by early next week. We continue to wait for several things to happen at the surface. Forecast conditions will vary significantly across the western Micronesia region, depending on whether you're in Palau, Yap Proper, within the Chuuk Lagoon, or across the outer islands of Yap and Chuuk States. Expect periods of showers, thunderstorms, locally heavy rainfall, and some gusty winds while the NET and 93W remain in the area. Keep up to date with Western Micronesia Weather Forecasts as conditions evolve in the coming days.

For now, NWS encourages everyone in western Chuuk State, Yap State, the Republic of Palau, and the Marianas to monitor forecasts for any updates or changes noted in the region as 93W develops.

"It is likely that this will eventually come to fruition, and when it does, we will lean more toward the possible development of a tropical cyclone," said NWS.

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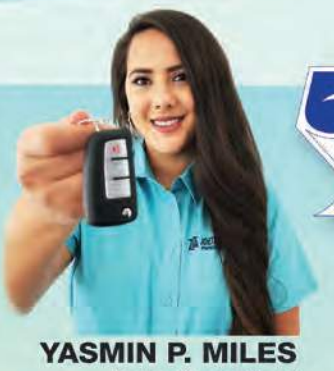

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

May 07, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after May 24, 2024, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Construction of generator house and ongoing maintenance of generator	Construction of a generator house for installation of and ongoing maintenance of a generator for **Guma' Esperansa**	Recipient location: Dandan, Saipan **Original Location for project:** Confidential	$50,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **May 24, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
David M. Apatang
Acting Governor, CNMI

Sanitary inspections of food establishments for April 2024

During the month of April 2024, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Environmental Health Disease Prevention conducted sanitary inspections on retail, eating, and drinking establishments. Through this release, EHDP is providing names of establishments by inspection grade and names of establishments which were ordered to close for serious violations of health and sanitation standards. For these establishments, we provide the suspension date and the date they were certified to resume operations.

Classifications for food safety rating for an establishment receiving a score of:

- 0-10 Demerits Grade A
- 11-20 Demerits Grade B
- 21-30 Demerits Grade C
- 30 Closure/Suspension

RESULTS

Grade A

1. Sea-Lago, Inc., Garapan
2. Sunshine Market, Garapan
3. Furusato Restaurant, Garapan
4. Mobil Kagman Service Station & Mart, Kagman
5. Sadog Tasi Mobil Mart Station, Sadog Tasi
6. Chalan Piao Mobil Mart Station, Chalan Piao
7. Elim Catering, Dandan
8. Aqua Resort Club Saipan, (All Outlets), San Roque
9. Last Shot Bar, Chalan Kanoa
10. The Shack, San Jose
11. K-Super Market (Water & Ice Manufacturing), San Antonio
12. Judy's Café, As Lito
13. J.T.M. Snack Bar & BBQ Grill, Garapan
14. M-II Enterprise, Koblerville
15. Pop'z Noni, Susupe
16. Myung Rang Hotdog, Garapan
17. Starsands Plaza-Local Food Market, Garapan
18. Starsands Plaza, Garapan
19. Eucon International School (Cafeteria), Gualo Rai
20. D'Chef's Kitchen, Chalan Kanoa
21. Musubiya, Chalan Kanoa
22. Kalayaan, Inc., San Antonio
23. New Sara Market, Capitol Hill
24. Savemore Market, San Antonio
25. Yewon Restaurant, San Jose
26. S.T.a.R. Water, Inc, Garapan
27. Coconut Bar, Garapan
28. LNJ Snack Bar & BBQ, Dandan
29. New Shinsen Sushi Restaurant, Garapan
30. 9 Eleven Resto Bar II, Garapan
31. Guangdong Hardware Cafetera, As Lito
32. JL Market, Susupe
33. Island Flowers & Novelties, San Jose
34. Pajuko Restaurant, Garapan

See SANITARY on Page 7

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Richard V. Salas
Director, DCRM

NOTICE OF DCRM PUBLIC HEARING

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW) TINIAN ROUTE 205 EXTENSION ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing for the following three projects:

CRM Major Siting Application No. TMS-2024-044 – The Route 205 extension road improvement project area is located at the southside of Tinian, just the east of the former Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino. The road to be paved is the existing gravel road from Route 205/Route 206 intersection to Route 27 intersection. The project includes improvements to the drainage system, drainage conveyance to the ponding basin, and utility adjustments. The total length of the road improvement project is approximately 3,700 linear feet (0.7 miles).

The public hearing for this project is scheduled on **Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5:00PM, at the Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria, San Jose, Tinian.**

DCRM continues to provide virtual participation via video conferencing through Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j (Meeting ID: 6706648315). Our Zoom meeting access code may change, please call the DCRM Permitting Office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance at least one-day prior to the public hearing date.

If you are unable to attend in-person or virtually, written comments may be submitted to the DCRM Permitting Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304, or sent by fax at 664-8315, or by email at permitting@dcrm.gov.mp. The project file is open for review and comments during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application records and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed project. Please contact Ms. Sam Sablan at the DCRM Permitting Office at 664-8300/1 or via email at permitting@dcrm.gov.mp if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the proposed DPW Tinian Route 205 Improvement Project.

/s/ Richard V. Salas
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

SANITARY

From page 6

35. Sunny Side Kitchen, Garapan
36. Subway Central, Gualo Rai
37. Monster Pizza, Garapan
38. Grand Mini-Mart, Gualo Rai
39. Ever Clean Mini Mart, Dandan
40. Benki Catering, Dandan
41. Pat's Food Palace, San Roque

Tinian Grade A

1. Tinian Diamond Casino Restaurant A
2. 6 PAC Catering/Food Manufacturing A

Rota Grade A

1. Puesto Grill Catering, Songsong
2. Puesto Grill Restaurant, Songsong
3. ACE Hardware, Retail, Songsong

Grade B

1. K-Super Market (Retail), San Antonio
2. Paris Croissant, Garapan
3. New Changming Market, Garapan
4. MHEL'S Bento & Catering, San Roque
5. New Dolphin Market, San Jose
6. Paris Croissant, Garapan
7. Thai Food BBQ & Catering, San Antonio
8. Lucky De Market (Butcher & Packing Facility), Dandan

Grade C

1. K-Super Market (Butcher & Packing Facility), San Antonio
2. Jinli Store, Dandan
3. Rising Super Market (Butcher & Packing Facility), Koblerville

Establishment(s) ordered closed for serious violations of health and sanitation standards

■ Judy's Café, As Lito, (Closed-03/27/2024) (Opened-04/05/2024)

For more information, contact the EHDP office at (670) 236-2022/27/28, or email the Administrator of EHDP, John Tagabuel, at john.tagabuel@chcc.health.

For more information about CHCC programs, follow EHDP on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

This press release may be found online at http://www.chcc.health/pressrelease.php. ***(PR)***

UFO to hold Pistang Pinoy on June 9

To celebrate the 126th Philippine Independence Day, the United Filipino Organization will hold its yearly Pistang Pinoy celebration on Sunday, June 9, 2024, from 11am to 6pm at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe from 11.

The whole-day event will be filled with games, entertainment, food, raffle drawings, and "Kwarta o Kahon" as the highlight of the event. A roundtrip ticket to the Philippines will be the grand prize of the raffle drawing donated by SuperTech Foundation.

If you wish to join the festivity, please contact the following committees.

■ For vendors, contact the members of Saipan Building and Fixing Computer User's Group (SBFCUG) Mildred Pabilando at (670) 785-0560 and Edmin Elayda at (670) 989-0375.

■ For entertainers, contact Bayani Association president Annamae Adaza at (670) 285-4388 and secretary Leony Mendoza at (670) 287-7563.

■ For sponsorship and ads in the annual souvenir booklet, contact UFO president Birhen Martinez at (670) 483-0915 and secretary Yho Villavicencio at (670) 285-9017. ***(PR)***

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB24-DCCA/DYS/RT-42400093

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 11, 2024
TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"TO PROCURE AND INSTALL TYPHOON SHUTTERS AT THE ROTA DCCA DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES SINAPALO YOUTH CENTER"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BLDG NO. 1301, ANATAHAN DRIVE, CAPTIOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES BY MAY 31, 2024, TO MS. VIVIAN T. SABLAN VIA EMAIL AT vtsablan@dys.gov.mp

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANCISCO M. RABAULIMAN
ACTING SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB24-BPD-42400094

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2024
TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE BROADBAND POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BLDG NO. 1301, ANATAHAN DRIVE, CAPTIOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO THE BROADBAND POLICY & DEVELOPMENT BY MAY 21, 2024, TO MRS. MELIA JOHNSON VIA EMAIL AT me.johnson@dof.gov.mp or MRS. DARLENE DU BRALL VIA EMAIL AT d.dubrall@dof.gov.mp

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ GLEN HUNTER
SA, BPD

/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

REGISTER NOW!
2024 JOETEN MEMORIAL
GOLF CLASSIC
2024 JOETEN MEMORIAL
GOLF CLASSIC
Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort - EAST Course
Saturday, July 06, 2024 | Shotgun 7:00am
Entry begins Friday, May 17, 2024
Earlybird Entry Fee $165
Regular Entry Fee $175 (starting from June 3rd)
JOETEN DAIDAI FOUNDATION
Bank of Guam
Entry forms are available at Joeten Motors Parts Department.
For more information on the tournament, contact Norman Peter "Dung" Tenorio
at (670)-234-5563 or email: joetenmgc@joeten.com

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Retired colonel Leafaina Tavai and fellow 2024 Hall of Fame Inductees with attending family members.

Radewagen congratulates Tavai for recent induction to Army Ordnance Hall of Fame

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen (R-A. Samoa) is congratulating the chief of staff of her congressional office, retired Col. Leafaina Tavai, for her recent induction into the Army Ordnance Hall of Fame.

Radewagen said, "Whether you know her as Ina, or Chief, or Colonel, with this induction into the Army Ordnance Hall of Fame, she has a doubly historic place in our islands. She is the very first of our people to attend and graduate any of the nation's prestigious service academies, in her case West Point. Now, she leads our effort to help many others from our islands follow her footsteps to a service academy."

Tavai said, "I'm so thankful to God, the love and support of my family, all of American Samoa, and the many great soldiers I served with over 25 years. This ceremony meant so much to me, but our family deeply missed our parents, making it an emotional day. This honor was for them and all the sacrifices they made to give our family a better life and future. My dad HC Vaiki Tavai always told me to never do anything to embarrass our family name; if I do, don't ever come back home! I've always kept that close to my heart and did everything with our family name and American Samoa in mind. Dad, Mom, I hope I've made you proud. Thank you from my heart to all of American Samoa."

Tavai is from Gataivai, American Samoa, the daughter of the late high chief Atiumaletavai Kaleopa Vaikī Tavai and the late high talking chief Feagaimaali'i Lauolive To'omalatai Tavai. She graduated from Samoana High School and left the islands for the first time to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York where she graduated in 1989 and was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps.

She was the first from American Samoa to be nominated by a member of Congress (Fofo Sunia) to the military academies and the first to graduate from West Point.

She served in the U.S. Army from 1989 to 2014, including three combat deployments to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). She commanded at every level from company to

See RADEWAGEN on Page 9

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen (R-A. Samoa) with chief of staff retired colonel Leafaina Tavai Leafaina Tavai.

18TH CNMI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
Board of Education Conference Room
Building 1241, Capitol Hill, Saipan
Via Zoom (see link below)

Agenda[1]

I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments[2]

III. Reports
1. Chair's Report
2. Committee Reports
   a. CIP
   b. FPA
   c. ISA
   d. LIA
   e. SICPP
   f. SARC
   g. Internal Auditor
   h. Student Representative
3. Commissioner of Education
   a. Financial Status Reports
      a. Federal
      b. Local
   b. Head Start Program
   c. Others

IV. Unfinished Business
1. Update on plans for Fiscal Cliff
2. Discussion of Article XV section 1(e) of the Commonwealth Constitution and possible litigation
3. Solar Panel Term Sheet
4. Certification & Licensure Matters:
   a. Certification Salary Adjustment Freeze
   b. Certification Fees

V. New Business
1. FY 2025 Budget Update
2. FY 2024 Consolidated Grant
3. SY 24-25 School Meal Menu
4. SPED: SPDG – "Project Higai" Annual Performance Report
5. Accreditation Report
6. Middle School Policy Proposals
7. Certification & Licensure Matters
   a. CLO Report No. 2024-18-01
   b. CLO Report No. 2024-18-02
   c. CLO Report No. 2024-18-03
   d. CLO Report No. 2024-18-04

VI. Executive Session[3]
1. Legal Counsel's Report
2. Personnel
3. Other matters

VII. Miscellaneous

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board Meeting

IX. Adjournment

[1] Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/97451356374?pwd=S2xqY1VHOWEvN2INMTd4QTBEL25GQT09
Meeting ID: 974 5135 6374
Passcode: 014704

[2] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.

[3] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 |
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
Website: www.cnmiports.com

INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-009-24

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 29, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"REMOVAL/DISPOSAL OF EXISTING REIL LIGHTS AND REPLACING WITH FOUR (4) BRAND NEW REIL LIGHTS"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING APRIL 26, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "REMOVAL/DISPOSAL OF EXISTING REIL LIGHTS AND REPLACING WITH FOUR (4) BRAND NEW REIL LIGHTS **(IFB-008-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., MAY 29, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA DATE: _____
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-007-24
SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 22, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"AIRPORT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES LANDSIDE PROPERTY"

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING APRIL 19, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

PROPOSERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "AIRPORT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES LANDSIDE PROPERTY (RFP-007-24)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., MAY 22, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS OR PROPOSALS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA DATE: _____
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 |
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
Website: www.cnmiports.com

INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-008-24

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"60 MONTH LEASE OF FIVE (5) ALL-IN ONE MULTIFUNCTION PRINTER/COPIER MACHINES"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING APRIL 19, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "60-MONTH LEASE OF FIVE (5) ALL-IN-ONE MULTIFUNCTION PRINTER/COPIER MACHINES (IFB-008-24)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., MAY 24, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA DATE: _____
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Retired colonel Leafaina Tavai is awarded her Army Ordnance Hall of Fame presentation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Ordnance Corps command team and honorary members.

RADEWAGEN

From page 8

brigade during her career including commanding a battalion for 15 months in combat. She was the first Samoan on active duty to be selected for promotion to colonel below-the-zone and selected for brigade command. She retired from the Army in 2014 and is currently serving as the Chief of Staff for Radewagen, American Samoa's representative in Congress, in Washington, D.C.

Tavai was the first Samoan to be selected and was inducted into the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame, Class of 2024 on May 6, 2024, at Fort Gregg-Adams (formerly Fort Lee), Virginia.

Tavai holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, an executive master's in business administration degree from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas and a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. Her military education includes The Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) School at the U.S. Air Force Academy, the Ordnance Officer Basic Course, the Combined Logistics Officers Advanced Course, the Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Naval War College. Her awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, the Global War on Terrorism Medal (Expeditionary and Service), and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

In 2014, when Radewagen was first elected, Tavai was retiring from her 25-plus years of service to the United States in uniform. She has served as chief of staff for the congressional office since Day 1, which will be 10 years in a few months.

Radewagen concluded, "She's retired from the Army but still a credit to the uniform every day, a person of strength, integrity, leadership, kindness and much more. We love you and could not be prouder of you, Colonel." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Retired colonel Leafaina Tavai's family at the ceremony. From left, brother Sam and his wife Emily Tavai, niece Melina Tavai, Tavai herself, and brother Papali'i Faaa.

JOETEN ANNIVERSARY MEGA GIVEAWAY

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN GREAT GIVEAWAYS AND PRIZES!

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

JOETEN 75th ANNIVERSARY MEGA GIVEAWAY (2024)

To win, simply write your complete name, mailing address, and day time telephone number on our entry coupon. An entry coupon may be obtained for every $75 purchased at any participating Joeten retail locations. Limit 10 coupons per transaction at retail. Participating non-retail companies may add additional stipulations. Please see participating companies for details. Combining receipt transactions is not allowed. Drop entry form in the boxes marked **"JOETEN 75th ANNIVERSARY MEGA GIVEAWAY"** provided at all Joeten outlets.

No purchase necessary. You may obtain a blank entry form by sending a self-addressed and stamped envelope to J.C. Tenorio Enterprises Main Office, "Joeten 75th Anniversary Mega Giveaway," P.O. Box 500137, Saipan, MP 96950. By writing your name and entering the "Joeten 75th Anniversary Mega Giveaway", you certify that you are 18 years or older, and have read and understand the official Rules and Regulations of the "Joeten 75th Anniversary Mega Giveaway." Limit one per written request per day per person. The odds of winning depend on the total number of entries received. Photocopies, mechanically reproduced, or cut entries will not be eligible to win. All entries must be received no later than 48 hours prior to drawing time. Need not to be present to win. Winners will be selected by public drawing at a Joeten outlet beginning on June 1 and shall conclude on July 27. Actual drawing dates may be subject to change.

Winner will be provided an AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY, PUBLICITY and LIABILITY RELEASE FORM after the actual drawing which must be completed and notarized to claim the prize. The affidavit must be received by Joeten Enterprises Inc. within 15 days after notification date or be disqualified thereafter. Prizes not claimed after 30 days of notification shall be considered as forfeited. All applicable taxes, licenses and registration fee are the responsible of the winners. Prizes have no cash value and may not be exchanged. In the event of unavailability of stated prize, the sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize of comparable value.

All entries become the property of Joeten Enterprises Inc. and will not be returned. Joeten Enterprises Inc. assumes no responsibility or liability for damages, losses or injury resulting from the acceptance or use of any prize. Joeten Enterprises Inc. makes no express warranty, guaranty or representation of any kind concerning prize, and disclaims any implied warranties.

Sponsor will exercise due care in handling of entry forms, but assumes no responsibility for lost, misdirected, or mutilated entries, or for typographical errors or other entries in the printing of offers, the administration of the "Joeten 75th Anniversary Mega Giveaway", or in the announcement of prizes. In any eventuality, Joeten Enterprises Inc.'s decision shall be final. Dates are subject to change.

The "Joeten 75th Anniversary Mega Giveaway" is open to people 18 years or older, except the employees, officers, directors and shareholders of Joeten Enterprises, Inc., and immediate families of the employees officers, directors, and shareholders of Joeten Enterprises, Inc., including its subsidiaries, consultants and any company involved with the design, production and execution of this promotion. Joeten Enterprises Inc., reserves the right to use prize winner's name in any promotional activities to the "Joeten 75th Anniversary Mega Giveaway" without further notification, permission, or compensation to the winner.

For more information, please call J.C. Tenorio main office at 234-6446 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.

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Small-acreage farming workshop series begins May 25 at UOG

New farmers with small acreages are invited to a free six-session workshop series being offered by the University of Guam's Land Grant extension agents. The workshops will teach agroforestry—the simultaneous cultivation of crops and trees—using sustainable practices for growers with limited space of up to 1 acre.

The workshops will take place from 8:30am to noon on six Saturdays, starting on May 25. Each workshop will include a classroom portion, a field activity, and a special crop highlight. After each session, participants will take home several handouts and publications as well as a food-producing tree that they can plant.

The schedule and topics are as follows:

Saturday, May 25
Topics: Agriculture philosophies, methods of production, sheet mulching

Crop Highlight: Lemongrass

Saturday, June 8
Topics: Farmer classifications, plant propagation techniques, fruit trees for windbreaks

Crop Highlights: Soursop and sweet potato

Saturday, June 15
Topics: Soil testing, soil fertility and nutrient management, propagation by corm and stem cuttings

Crop Highlights: Plantains and bananas

Saturday, July 6
Topics: Mapping your microplot, container production, composting

Crop Highlights: Basil and eggplant

Saturday, July 13
Topics: Farming on a slope, vegetative barriers and hedgerows, less toxic homemade pesticides, government programs for farming

Crop Highlight: Pigeon peas

UOG
Research associate Ferdinand Galsim, left, and UOG soil scientist Dr. Mohammad Golabi demonstrate how to take a soil sample at a soil workshop for farmers in October 2023. UOG will begin a New Farmer Training for Small Acreages workshop series on May 25.

Saturday, July 20
Topics: Requirements to become a bona fide farmer, requirements for CHamoru Land Trust leases, drip irrigation, raised bed gardening

Crop Highlights: Okra, lettuce, kale, Chinese kale, hot peppers

Registration

Register at https://url.uog.edu/new-farmer-training-2024. Registration is on first-come, first-served basis up to 50 people per session. Registrants are encouraged to sign up for all six, although they can choose individual workshops as well.

For more information or assistance registering, contact Tiana Paulino at (671) 735-2000 or paulinot16265@triton.uog.edu.

The workshop series is funded by a Renewable Resources Extension Act grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a Professional Development Program grant from Western Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education. ***(PR)***

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Tel: (670) 664-2371| Fax: (670) 664-2408| Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB24-GOV/CIP-42400089

SUBMISSION DATE: 10:00 AM ChST, JUNE 5, 2024

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL SERVICES BUILDING RENOVATION & IMPROVEMENTS BLDG #1303

Governor Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Governor David M. Apatang, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), are soliciting sealed bids for the Division of Financial Service Building Renovation & Improvements in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). This project will be funded by the 702 Covenant funding under the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The project package will be available in digital format only beginning **May 3, 2024** at the Capital Improvement Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, during regular working hours or online at Vendor Self-Service (selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/Vendors/Vbids).

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the project site located in Capitol Hill, Saipan at **10:00 AM ChST, May 21, 2024.** Questions regarding this ITB may be submitted via email to Ms. Nerissa B. Karakaya at nerissa.benavente@gov.mp no later than **4:00 PM ChST, May28, 2024**. All Questions & Answers will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent to Bid Form to the Acting Director of Procurement Services via email (bidintent@dof.gov.mp) no later than **10:00 AM ChST, June 5, 2024.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

/S/ Brien S. Nicholas Jr.
Acting Director, CNMI Procurement Services

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB24-GOV/CIP-42400086

SUBMISSION DATE: 9:00 AM ChST, JUNE 10, 2024

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TREASURY BUILDING RENOVATION

Governor Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Governor David M. Apatang, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), are soliciting sealed bids for the *Department of Finance Treasury Building Renovation* in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). This project will be funded by the 702 Covenant funding under the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The project package will be available in digital format only beginning **May 10, 2024** at the Capital Improvement Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, during regular working hours or online at Vendor Self Service (selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/Vendors/Vbids).

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the project site located in Capitol Hill, Saipan at **10:00 AM ChST, May 28, 2024.** Questions regarding this ITB may be submitted via email to Ms. Skalan Yamada at syamada.cip@gmail.com no later than **4:00 PM ChST, June 4, 2024.** All Questions & Answers will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent to Bid Form to the Acting Director of Procurement Services via email (bidintent@dof.gov.mp) no later than **9:00 AM ChST, June 4, 2024.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

/S/ Brien Sers Nicholas Jr.
Acting Director, CNMI Procurement Services

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 • Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315 • www.dcrm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of May 17, 2024

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

NO.	APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1.	Oceanal Corporation dba Divewish	04/05/2024 SLR-2024-039	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour Operations & Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved * 05/08/2024
2.	Department of Public Works (DPW)	04/16/2024 TMS-2024-044	Route 205 Road Improvements Project	San Jose, Tinian	Major Siting	Public Hearing* 06/11/2024
3.	Triple J Saipan, Inc.	04/19/2024 TMS-2022-035-A2	Construction of One (1) Additional Barracks	Marpo Heights, Tinian	Major Siting	Public Hearing 5/23/2024
4.	Soo Corporation dba Saipan Diving World	04/26/2024 SLR-2023-013-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 5/7/2024
5.	World Corporation dba Saipan World Resort	04/26/2024 SLR-2023-042-R2	Commercial Kayaking, Snorkeling, Stand Up Paddle Boarding, Windsurfing & Floaters Activities	Susupe, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 5/7/2024
6.	Marianas Trekking LLC	4/30/2024 SLR-2023-040-R2	Commercial Kayaking, Canoeing, Stand-Up Paddleboard, & Snorkeling Activities	Grotto, Marine Beach, Paupau Beach, & Managaha Island, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/7/2024
7.	Diving Shop Light House, Inc.	5/1/2024 SLR-2023-014-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Instructions & Tour Operation	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/7/2024
8.	Interpacific Resorts Saipan Corporation dba Pacific Islands Club	5/1/2024 SLR-2023-022-R2	Commercial Snorkeling, Kayaking, Stan-Up Paddleboard, Windsurfing, & Sailing Activities	San Antonio, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/7/2024
9.	Yumiko N. Brundidge dba Nakas Diving Services	5/2/2024 SLR-2023-015-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour Operations & Instructions	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/7/2024
10.	500 Sails, Inc.	5/2/2024 SLR-2024-040-R2	Sailing/Traditional Maritime Activities (Beach Canoes)	Lowerbase, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/10/2024
11.	Sydney J. Takahashy dba Fish Guyz SCUBA & Charter	5/3/2024 SLR-2023-049-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour & Instructions	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/14/2024
12.	Aquatop Enterprises, Inc.	5/6/2024 SPIm-2024-043	DryDock	Lowerbase, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Certified Complete* 5/10/2024
13.	Zen Corporation dba Aqua Marine Sports	5/8/2024 SLR-2023-034-R2	Commercial Snorkeling, Kayaking, Satan-Up Paddleboard, Hobie Cat, & Windsurfing Activities	Achugao, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/10/2024
14.	Aqua Connections, Inc.	5/8/2024 SLR-2023-016-R2-A1	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour Operation & Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Dive Site & Swim Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/14/2024
15.	Deep Blue, Inc. dba Deep Blue Diving	5/8/2024 SLR-2023-030-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour Operations & Instructions	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/14/2024
16.	Shim Corporation dba Pro Divers Saipan	5/8/2024 SLR-2023-029-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour Operations & Instructions	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/14/2024
17.	Saipan A-Venture, LLC. Dba Saipan Adventure	5/8/2024 SLR-2023-031-R2	Commercial Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Swim Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/10/2024
18.	How Yo Chi	5/9/2024 SSm-2024-044	Construction of Concrete Slab and Patio Canopy with Fence	San Jose, Saipan	Shoreline	Application Under Review*
19.	Hawaiian Rock Products Corporation dba Hawaiian Rock Products	5/10/2024 TMS-2024-045	Hawaiian Rock Products Quarry Expansion	Marpo Valley, Tinian	Major Siting	Application Under Review*
20.	Buttonwood Corporation dba Pacific Star Diving Club	5/10/2024 SLR-2024-012-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour Operations	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/15/2024
21.	Buttonwood Corporation dba Marianas Water Sports	5/10/2024 SLR-2024-013-R2	Commercial Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Swim Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Certified Complete 5/15/2024
22.	Micronesia Resort, Inc. dba Kensington Hotel Saipan	5/13/2024 SLR-2023-039-R2	Commercial Hobie Cat Sailing, Kayaking, Snorkeling, & Stand-Up Paddleboard Activities	Kensington Beach Front, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Application Under Review
23.	Open Knowledge Systems, Inc. dba Lets Go Diving - Saipan	5/15/2024 SLR-2023-075-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour & Operation	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Application Under Review
24.	Sea Peoples, LLC. Dba Seungwoo Lee	4/11/2024 RLR-2024-003	Commercial SCUBA Diving & Tour Operations	All Designated Dive Sites, Rota	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 5/6/2024
25.	Rota Mayor's Office	5/7/2024 RSm-2024-004	Gilita Chamorro Fiesta	Chamorro Village, Rota	Shoreline	Application Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).
The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Business

38 Mitsubachi brings Japanese soufflé pancakes to Saipan

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

Japanese soufflé pancake restaurant 38 Mitsubachi opened its first location in Micronesia at the back of Lollipops in Garapan last March 8.

"Our concept is to deliver the ultimate soufflé pancake as a dish of utmost perfection, offering egg-based sweets that bring happiness and richness to your senses," said 38 Mitsubachi Saipan general manager Emi Okazaki.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

38 Mitsubachi's strawberry soufflé pancake.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

38 Mitsubachi's pistachio & caramel nuts soufflé pancake.

She said 38 Mitsubachi expanded to Saipan because of the historical and cultural connections between the island and Japan.

"Given the historically strong connection between Saipan and Japan, we have chosen Saipan to serve as a bridge between the two, aiming to embody that bond."

As for the name, Okazaki said 38 is an angel number, symbolizing the enrichment of life through quality time spent with loved ones and the enhancement of financial prosperity. Mitsubachi, meanwhile, is a pun on the word bee.

"It is our wish that by enjoying our 38 Bee's Soufflé Pancake, all the people of Saipan and visitors to Saipan can feel happiness and abundance. The name '38 Bee' is derived from the honey obtained from Japanese bees, combining the number 38 with the concept of angel numbers."

As for how the local dining community has welcomed 38 Mitsubachi, Okazaki said they feel they belong since all their soufflé pancakes have all been smash hits.

She said their Soufflé Pancakes of Happiness can make everyone feel truly happy when enjoyed with their special maple cream. Seasonal fruits also add a touch of elegance to the soufflé pancakes.

Okazaki added that all their soufflé pancakes are made with only essential ingredients such as eggs, flour, milk, and butter, and meticulously crafted for over 30 minutes.

As for promotions, 38 Mitsubachi is currently giving away a complimentary coffee or tea voucher for each order of soufflé pancake. The coffee or tea voucher is redeemable on their next visit.

MARK RABAGO

38 Mitsubachi is located at the back of Lollipops along Bougainvillea Avenue in Garapan.

Aside from their soft-opening on March 8, 38 Mitsubachi also currently has a booth at the 25th Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival held every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park.

38 Mitsubachi, located along Bougainvillea Avenue in Garapan, is open from Tuesday to Sunday, 10am-6pm, with last order at 5:15pm. After the grand opening, they plan to extend their operating hours and include a pasta lunch menu. It can accommodate 95 dine-in customers that includes indoor and terrace seating. For more information or for reservations, call (670) 233-3281.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

38 Mitsubachi can accommodate 95 dine-in customers that includes indoor and terrace seating.

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 500730
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM,	]	**Civil Action No. 15-0197**
Plaintiff,	]	**Civil Action No. 15-0193**
vs.	]	
	]	**NOTICE OF AUCTION**
STEVEN V. PANGELINAN,	]	**AND JUDICIAL SALE**
	]	**OF LOT NO. H-251-3**
Defendant.	]	
	]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an Order Granting Writ of Execution issued in the above-titled action by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on December 11, 2023, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to the Bank of Guam, as prescribed in the Order Approving Plaintiff's Motion for Writ of Execution of Property. The undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder on July 30, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at Robert T. Torres Law Office, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in the said Writ of Execution, to wit:

Lot H-251-3 is 5,000 square meters and is located in As Lito-As Perdido, Saipan Municipality, CNMI. The property is designated as wetland conservation, as shown on the ArcGIS App Map and the National Wetlands Inventory Map of Saipan. The subject lies in a wetland area identified as a Freshwater Emergent Wetland (PEM1F).

1. Public Sale. The auction shall be open to the general public.
2. With Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before the sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person or in writing to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: robertorres@rtlawgroup.com.
5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property will revert to the Plaintiff Bank of Guam.
6. Change of Terms. The auctioneer and the Plaintiff, Bank of Guam, reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres to schedule viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of April 2024.

/s/ Robert T. Torres
Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 | Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
Website: www.cnmiports.com

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA AIRPORT AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON REHABILITATION AIP NO. 3-69-0003-34/XX,** OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Benjamin Taisacan Manglona Airport Aircraft Parking Apron Rehabilitation AIP No. 3-69-0003-34/XX"* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024,** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan Internation Airport, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal. Bids will be delivered to the Airport Conference Room immediately following the 2:00 p.m. deadline, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of, rehabilitation of the aircraft parking apron including all associated work, all in accordance with the Plans and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds by U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and CPA. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

A DVD containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY ($150.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (DVD). The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority". Bidders should notify Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmiports.com immediately if there are issues retrieving the files on the DVD. Bidders should also verify all information using the specification table of contents and the index of drawings.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, at **10:00 AM. FRIDAY. MAY 10. 2024,** at the Rota Airport to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference. Attendance is not mandatory. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference. Bidders are requested to minimize their company's attendees to ensure social distancing, as well as wear a face mask at all times while at the airport.

Questions should be submitted in writing to the CPA Executive Director's Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmiports.com at least ten (10) days prior to the bid opening date; with the exception of bid submission extension requests which have no deadline. Responses to all questions and requests for information will be provided to all bidders who purchased the bid documents and attended the pre-bid conference.

Bidders shall use the bid schedule form furnished on the DVD. Each bidder should also supply all supplemental information required in the specifications.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY (450) calendar days.** Liquidated damages in the amount of **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,000.00)** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or mis-enter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-28 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offer or certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ LEO B. TUDELA
Executive Director

Date: April 19, 2024

Japan's economy shrinks on weak consumer spending, auto woes

TOKYO (AP)—The Japanese economy shrank at an annual rate of 2% in the first quarter of this year, as consumption and exports declined, the government said Thursday.

Although unemployment has stayed relatively low in the world's fourth largest economy at about 2.6%, wage growth has been slow and prices have risen partly due to weakness of the yen against the U.S. dollar.

Quarter-to-quarter, the preliminary seasonally adjusted gross domestic product, or GDP, a measure of the value of a nation's products and services, slipped 0.5% in the January-March period, according to the Cabinet Office.

The annual rate measures what would have happened if the quarterly rate lasted a year.

The Japanese yen has been trading at three-decade lows recently, with the U.S. dollar costing about 155 yen. That has helped tourism but hurts spending power, especially for a nation that imports almost all its energy.

Nation

Reported sex assaults in the US military have dropped

WASHINGTON (AP)—The number of reported sexual assaults across the military decreased last year, and a confidential survey found a 19% drop in the number of service members who said they had experienced some type of unwanted sexual contact, according to new figures obtained by The Associated Press. Both are dramatic reversals of what has been a growing problem in recent years.

More than 29,000 active-duty service members said in the survey that they had unwanted sexual contact during the previous year, compared with nearly 36,000 in the 2021 survey, according to several defense officials. The decrease is the first in eight years.

At the same time, 8,515 sexual assaults were reported last year involving members of the U.S. military, a decrease from 8,942 in 2022. And officials said the U.S. military academies also saw fewer reported sexual assaults in the school year that ended last spring versus the previous year.

President Joe Biden hailed the improved numbers as he spoke Wednesday to his military commanders, who were gathered at the White House.

"I'm proud that for the first time in nearly a decade, rates of sexual assault and harassment are, within the active-duty forces, are down. They're down. That's because of your leadership," Biden said.

Senior defense officials said the assault numbers are still far too high and there is much more work to do, but they expressed cautious optimism that the military could be turning a corner, with help from an array of new programs and increased personnel. Sexual assault reports in the military have gone up for much of the last decade, except for a tiny decrease in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because the report has not been publicly released.

While it's difficult to point to any one reason for the recent decreases, the Defense Department has been making a series of changes over the past year that officials say may be contributing to the shift. The services are using an infusion of more than $1 billion in the last two budgets to improve programs and hire up to 2,500 personnel as part of a new "prevention workforce" and place them at military installations around the world. So far, more than 1,000 have been hired.

The Pentagon releases a report every year on the number of sexual assaults reported by or about troops. But because sexual assault is a highly underreported crime, the department does a confidential survey every two years to get a clearer picture of the problem. That survey is conducted online.

The data for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 also suggests that a greater percentage of service members came forward to report sexual assaults, which has been a key goal for the Defense Department. About 25% of those who said on the survey that they had faced unwanted sexual contact reported it last year, compared with 20% in 2021, according to defense officials and documents reviewed by the AP.

US border arrests fall in April, bucking usual spring increase

WASHINGTON (AP)—Arrests for illegally crossing the U.S. border from Mexico fell more than 6% in April to the fourth lowest month of the Biden administration, authorities said Wednesday, bucking the usual spring increase.

U.S. officials have largely attributed the decline to more enforcement in Mexico, including in yards where migrants are known to board freight trains. Mexico won't allow more than 4,000 illegal crossings a day to the U.S., Alicia Barcena, Mexico's foreign relations secretary, told reporters Tuesday, down from more than 10,000 Border Patrol arrests on some days in December.

Migrants were arrested 128,884 times in April, down from 137,480 in March and barely half a record-high of 249,737 in December, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said. While still historically high, the sharp decline in arrests since late December is welcome news for President Joe Biden on a key issue that has nagged him in election-year polls.

San Diego became the busiest of the Border Patrol's nine sectors along the Mexican border for the first time since the 1990s with 37,370, replacing Tucson, Arizona.

Troy Miller, Customs and Border Protection's acting commissioner, said more enforcement, including deportations, and cooperation with other countries resulted in lower numbers.

"As a result of this increased enforcement, southwest border encounters have not increased, bucking previous trends. We will remain vigilant to continually shifting migration patterns," he said.

SUPREME COURT
THE JUDICIARY
REPUBLIC OF PALAU
P.O. Box 248 Koror, Palau 96940
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Capitol: (680) 767-2606
E-mail address: judiciary@palausupremecourt.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the Trial Division of the Palau Supreme Court is currently scheduling hearings on pending land claims in Ngarchelong, Palau. The cases with pending claims are as follows:

Civil Action No. 23-114
Civil Action No. 23-120
Civil Action No. 23-115
Civil Action No. 23-121
Civil Action No. 23-116
Civil Action No. 23-122
Civil Action No. 23-117
Civil Action No. 23-123
Civil Action No. 23-118
Civil Action No. 23-124
Civil Action No. 23-119

The following individuals are listed as Claimants:

- **Susana Flores Delos Reyes aka Susana Delos Reyes Mendiola**
- **Lawrence J. Aflague, Jr.**
- **Eugenia Flores James aka Eugenia James Aflague**
- **Gabriel Borja**
- **Frank Flores**
- **Frederica Flores Santos**
- **Maccarthy John Borja**
- **Atanacio Borja**
- **Pedro Tudela Borja, Jr.**
- **Teresa D. Laguana**

These Claimants or their children, heirs, descendants, or other authorized representatives are requested to contact the Clerk of Courts to update their contact information. This is necessary to facilitate calendaring of hearings and addressing any logistical arrangements, such as attending hearings virtually through remote court proceedings if they are unable to attend in person.

Allison Idip Sengebau
Palau Supreme Court
P.O. Box 248
Koror, Palau 96940
Tel: (680)488-2607
Mobile: (680) 775-4914
asengebau@palausupremecourt.net

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 07-2024

Opening date: May 15, 2024 **Closing date: June 5, 2024**

Location: SAIPAN **SALARY**

Position(s):

(1) Staff Engineer **UNGRADED**

Nature of Work

Highly responsible for all engineering programs and activities of CPA.

This employee is responsible for the management and supervision of engineering programs and activities at the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA). Work is technical in nature and reviewed through conferences with the Executive Director or his designee and submission of reports. Employee exercises independent judgment in solutions to situations or problems in which no precedents exist. This position is unclassified.

Minimum Qualifications

Graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) and a four (4) year degree in civil engineering from an accredited U.S. college or university with no less than five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional engineering level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.

(1) STAFF ATTORNEY **UNGRADED**

Nature of Work

Under the general direction of the CPA Board of the Directors and the Executive Director to provide legal assistance and advice on a day-to-day basis and to render such legal services as may be requested. Required to perform such services as may be designated, including but not limited to, all or any portion of the employer's administrative, supervisory, planning and other obligations in the operations of the airports and seaport of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This position is unclassified.

Minimum Qualifications

1. Must be a U.S. citizen.
2. Member (active) of the CNMI Bar.
3. Graduated with Juris Doctor degree from an accredited U.S. law school.
4. At least five (5) years work experience in either the government or private practice, and at least three (3) years experience in civil litigation, including jury trials.
5. Have never been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, in any jurisdiction.
6. Shall have no felony or criminal conviction.

(1) COMPTROLLER **UNGRADED**

Nature of Work

Difficult and highly responsible professional accounting work involving the management and supervision of CPA's major accounting program.

This employee is responsible for the management and supervision of all phases and functions of CPA's accounting program consisting of several numbers of subordinate accountants and account clerical personnel. Work is technical in nature and reviewed through conferences with the Executive Director or his designee and submission of reports. Employee exercises independent judgment in solutions to situations or problems in which no clear precedents exist. This position is unclassified.

Minimum Qualifications

Must possess four (4) year degree in Accounting, Finance, or related field from an accredited U.S. college or university with no less than seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in professional Accounting, Finance or managerial level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience. Accounting experience in autonomous agencies and/or U.S. Certified Public Accountant is preferred.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, June 05, 2024.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays and austerity, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin, Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.robert@cnmiports.com and hrspecialist@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

LEO B. TUDELA
Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Gambling on elections? Biden or Trump is a bet too far

Public opinion polls show the Nov. 5 presidential race has tightened in recent days, with President Joe Biden and ex-President Donald Trump running nearly neck and neck. And in case you don't trust polls, which underestimated Trump's support in 2016 and 2020, you can check out the latest odds on one of the online gaming sites based offshore to sidestep U.S. laws against gambling on elections.

In fact, it's easier than ever to bet on the outcome of elections these days.

The legalization of online sports gambling in the late 2010s has made colorful, easy-to-use betting apps practically ubiquitous in Illinois and elsewhere, a trend that might partially explain the struggles of Chicago's underperforming new temporary casino as gamblers' preferences change and sports betting clobbers once-lucrative slot machines.

Similar apps for trading on the financial markets have followed close behind, increasing small-investor participation in the futures and options contracts pioneered in Chicago. That's a good thing, at least in that it expands the benefits of trading to those who do not arrive at the table with bucketloads of money.

But the growth of both gaming platforms and exchange trading apps has blurred the line between gambling and investing, reminding us of the 1970s, when the Chicago exchanges were challenging the dominant New York exchanges for a piece of the financial markets. At the time, those affronted New Yorkers tried to portray Chicago as a shady gambling den.

In that conflict, the Chicago exchanges prevailed, and their financial products grew to become an essential part of the global economy. Now, regulators are trying to draw a new line, under pressure from upstart markets that want to home in on the latest gambling action.

As it stands, customers can go to regulated markets such as Chicago's CME Group and speculate on all sorts of market events. Think gold will close today above yesterday's closing price? You can make a yes-or-no wager on CME. These "event contracts" have the OK of the industry's key regulator, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and they're guaranteed by the exchange, just like its other contracts.

The next logical step, arguably, is to allow a wider variety of event contracts, including a contract on whether Democrats or Republicans will control Congress after Nov. 5, for instance.

In fact, an exchange called KalshiEX LLC petitioned the CFTC for approval of that very product, only to be denied late last year. KalshiEX has sued to challenge the decision, and the CFTC reportedly is considering new rules that would categorically outlaw all political-event contracts on the markets it regulates.

This page has long supported free markets, and the Chicago experience suggests that those opposing market-driven innovation often wind up on the wrong side of history — just like the New Yorkers in the 1970s who fought financial futures.

See GAMBLING on Page 15

A lesson from Presidents Biden and Trump—the new normal is nonstop crises

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

A poll published by the *Economist* this month included a finding that was striking yet unsurprising: Almost 7 in 10 Americans believe things in the country have spun out of control.

That's a problem for President Joe Biden, who campaigned in 2020 offering a return to normalcy after four years of chaos under Donald Trump.

Biden promised, in effect, to Make America Normal Again, but "normal" never quite returned. The COVID-19 restrictions ended, but the ensuing recovery brought high prices and rising mortgage rates. Wars broke out in Ukraine and Gaza; protests erupted on college campuses. And domestic politics remained bitterly polarized; the bipartisan unity Biden promised to engineer remained out of reach.

"People are reeling from the sense that we can't get going in the right direction," said Celinda Lake, one of Biden's top pollsters, relating sentiments from voters in focus groups. "They've been shocked by events they never expected: Afghanistan, the war in Ukraine, Gaza, even the wildfires in Maui and the collapse of the bridge in Baltimore."

Unsurprisingly, Trump has responded by blaming Biden for everything and anything that goes wrong, from surges in illegal immigration to wars overseas.

"If I was president, [the Oct. 7] Hamas attack on Israel would never have happened, the war in Ukraine would never have happened, and we would right now have peace throughout the world," Trump wrote on his social media account, an alternative history that—lucky for him—can neither be proved nor disproved.

The combination of adverse events and Republican attacks has taken a predictable toll on Biden's image. The Economist poll found that 58% of Americans consider Trump a strong leader, but only 36% see Biden as strong. Biden scores higher on other qualities; most voters see him as more honest and more likable than Trump. But those attributes may not be as important to voters in an era of instability.

"When people feel uncertainty or anxiety, they are looking for strong leaders," said Doug Sosnik, a political aide to President Clinton during his 1996 reelection campaign. "Trump's narrative, plain and simple, is … to portray Biden as weak. If that's what the election is about, Trump will win."

The pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses, Sosnik added, "are reinforcing Trump's existing narrative."

Despite Trump's claims, Biden can't really be blamed for the wars in Ukraine or Gaza, much less wildfires or bridge disasters. Whether he should be blamed for inflation is up for debate, although inflation in the U.S. has been lower than in most other countries.

Still, in an era of economic and political volatility, the new normal is that there is no normal. And that makes every incumbent vulnerable to bad news on his watch.

Case in point: Donald Trump in 2020.

Four years ago, amid a pandemic, a recession and the discord that followed George Floyd's murder by police, many voters blamed Trump—if not for causing the crises, at least for mismanaging them.

In a July 2020 Economist poll, 80% of Americans said they thought things in the country had spun out of control.

That's why many voters swung to Biden, hoping he could end the chaos and restore order.

But some scholars have concluded that incumbency, once considered an advantage for a president seeking reelection, has increasingly become a burden—mainly because in an era of polarized politics, presidents get less deference from voters on the other side.

"In the past, Democratic voters might sometimes rally around a Republican president … and Republican voters might sometimes support a Democratic president," political scientist Lee Drutman of the New America think tank wrote recently. Now, he added, "there is simply nothing Joe Biden could ever do" to win support from GOP voters.

"No national political figure is nationally popular," he added. "This is part of Biden's problem. It's not just about his age, or the economy, or his foreign policy."

Despite voters' sour mood, Biden and Trump appear evenly matched in most recent national polls. But two factors could move those numbers before election day.

One is the focus of the campaign. So far, it has largely been a referendum on Biden's record. But the president and his campaign are trying to shift the lens toward Trump, turning the election into a "dual referendum" on both candidates.

"Remember when he told us, literally, inject bleach?" Biden said at a campaign stop last month, referring to one of Trump's most memorable moments during the pandemic. (In fact, Trump didn't tell anyone to inject bleach; during a White House news conference, he asked aides to investigate whether it would be an effective therapy.)

In another appearance, Biden said Trump was "mentally unfit to be president."

The other factor, of course, is events. A cease-fire in Gaza, a continuing decline in illegal immigration, a Federal Reserve decision to cut interest rates or a conviction of Trump in any of his four pending criminal cases could help Biden. A new spike in inflation, an upsurge of migrants, or riots at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago could boost Trump.

But neither candidate can credibly promise to deliver "normalcy" anymore. No matter who the next president is, voters will soon be disappointed that he didn't return life to normal.

Trump and Big Oil are a match made in climate hell

If you are still uncertain about Donald Trump's stance on climate change, then the fact that fossil-fuel companies are helping to pay his legal bills should clear it up.

To be fair, the amount of oil money going to keep the once and possibly future president out of jail is kind of a pittance—somewhat less than $128,000 so far this year, or 2% of the $6.4 million Big Oil has given to Trump's fundraising committee, according to the news organization Heatmap's analysis of data provided by the communications group Climate Power. That's barely enough for one porn-star hush-money trial.

But the sector is gearing up to give a lot more, The Washington Post reported, especially after Trump has promised to cater to its every desire in a second term. Environmental rules and tailpipe emission standards? Gone. Carte blanche to drill, baby, drill from Alaska to the Gulf of Mexico? You got it.

"They got a great return on their investment during Trump's first term, and Trump is making it crystal clear that they're in for an even bigger payout if he's reelected," Climate Power Senior Adviser Alex Witt told the Post.

"Big Oil Gives Money to Republican" is about as dog-bites-man as news headlines can get. But it's notable in this case for a couple of reasons.

First, despite President Joe Biden having done more to fight climate change than any other U.S. president, and despite Trump having done possibly the least since we first realized "climate change" was a thing, Americans still don't seem to think there's a drastic difference between the two on the issue. It is true that Biden's climate action hasn't kept the U.S. from producing more oil and gas than ever before or prevented fossil-fuel companies from turning record profits. But voters need to understand just how stark the choice in November truly is, and following the money can help.

Second, the oil industry's embrace of Trump comes when its brand is comparably toxic to his. As the warming caused by burning fossil fuels leads to more devastation and suffering, we will keep pushing for alternatives. Renewable sources such as solar and wind generated 30% of the world's electricity for the first time last year, according to the energy think tank Ember. It predicted fossil-fuel power generation and emissions will fall this year, even as energy demand grows.

The oil and gas sector naturally wants to protect its assets in the ground and keep those record profits coming for as long as possible. But perhaps it could avoid a future of even harsher environmental regulation and political backlash around the world by trying to work with this transition rather than fighting a rear-guard action against it, particularly under the banner of a man out of touch with not only climate science but popular opinion.

Meanwhile, America's laboratories of democracy are cooking up some powerful weapons against the industry. Vermont is on the verge of passing a law that would force oil and gas companies to help cover the damage caused by global warming, creating a kind of superfund for recovery and adaptation. It would use the rapidly advancing science of weather-event attribution to come up with precise dollar amounts for companies to pay for every new event like last summer's deadly floods. It remains to be seen whether America's conservative courts let such laws stand, but other states with bigger populations and greater climate-change risks are watching closely, as are governments around the world.

The industry also faces a mountain of litigation from states and other local governments, including one from California that has aims similar to Vermont's superfund law. Some of those cases will go to trial soon in state courts after years of delay, which could inspire still more lawsuits and lead eventually to a huge tobacco-style settlement. Big Oil may sympathize with Trump's many legal headaches, but joining forces with him isn't the answer.

By MARK GONGLOFF
Bloomberg Opinion

Mark Gongloff is a Bloomberg Opinion editor and columnist covering climate change.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dedicated Little League field, get rid of toilets behind home plate

Kudos to Stan Good for his excellent explanation on the cause of the delay for the implementation of the EDA grant for the Civic Center cultural and sports complex. Credit also Gov. Palacios and MPLT for greasing the wheels to hopefully get this long-awaited community improvement project moving.

Trusting we achieve lift-off before yet another baseball season passes, I offer two specific recommendations that could easily be absorbed by the budget, both aimed at restoring baseball to its previous heights, the pride of the CNMI, two diamonds shining in the center of Saipan, its heart.

The first is to construct a dedicated Little League baseball field with stadium seating, parking and direct access from the north by the Saipan Mayor's Office, or preferably, east from Texas Road. In the same way the Koblerville Training Center swelled the number of kids playing soccer, a beautiful Little League ballpark would attract more kids which means families. More children playing sports is always a good thing, something that can be aided by adults here and now.

The second is to eliminate toilets behind home plate at Palacios Field. The time to get rid of the sound of a flush is here. Saipan must have the only ballfield in the world with bathrooms directly behind home plate where everywhere else puts their best seats. Instead of box seats, we have toilet seats. Replacing the restrooms with a small section of comfortable seating would make the experience of watching a game there more enjoyable for fans, families and visitors.

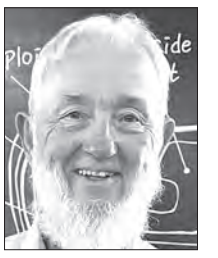
The baseball community is now re-establishing itself after twin typhoon catastrophes with 25 teams currently playing league games. A real Little League baseball field and better seating at Palacios Field would be an assist and a hit for so many families. For that reason, I hope this project gets prioritized, fast-tracked and done.

Bob Coldeen
Chalan Galaide

Mother's Day is everyday year round

Here are two secular prayers for mothers. Both were published last year on May 16th and May 23rd respectively in the *Saipan Tribune*. Both revised.

LITERARY NOOK
By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey aka "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. Joey is the Poet Laureate of Tinian, celebrating 40 years in the CNMI.

OUR MOTHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN

Our mother who is up in heaven above
honored be thy name and family with you
your children here on earth send all their love
thank you for all your work, giving birth too.

Give us this day your mother's delicious old recipes
for scalloped potatoes and Boston baked beans
cottage pudding cake, ham and black-eyed peas
and homemade cocoa we drank through our teens

Forgive me mother for not helping you more
and spending my allowance at the candy store
so I avoided the smallest household chore
complaining that washing the dishes was a bore

I hope to see you in heaven if I ever get there
Until then my dear Mother know that I care.

MOTHERLY LOVE: A GOOGOLPLEX LITANY

Billions of galaxies in the universe we know
Billions of stars in those galaxies galore
Billions of planets where things might grow
Billions of grains of sand on their shore

Millions of birds fly around the world
Millions of worms, bugs, flying insects
Millions of flowers with petals unfurled
Millions of creatures reproduce by sex

Billions of mothers living here on Earth
Billions of mothers give all they can give
Millions of mothers annually give birth
Millions of mothers die so that we can live

Mothers teach us all with love and mirth
Pouring out their hearts for all its worth.

GAMBLING

From page 14

Still, making election contracts widely available on regulated exchanges strikes us as a terrible idea, and we urge the CFTC to proceed with rules to forbid political trading. As a matter of public policy, no other course of action makes sense.

For starters, the CFTC already has confronted this issue, concluding a decade ago that the law does not permit election contracts. Further, the agency is obligated to guard against fraud and manipulation in the underlying markets it oversees. If it did allow election contracts, logic dictates it would need to insert itself into the electoral process, and that way madness lies.

The CFTC is not remotely equipped to referee U.S. or local elections in the same way that it polices gold, pork bellies or Treasuries. Nor should it be.

Consider, for instance, if someone had a fortune riding on the GOP retaining control of the House. As the election approached, if Democrats were pulling ahead in key races, there could be a financial incentive for the trader to interfere by, for example, funding an undercover effort to attack congressional candidates or something even more nefarious. That scenario could happen anyway, given the prevalence of offshore gambling sites, but at least in that instance, it wouldn't simultaneously threaten the integrity of the nation's financial regulators and its markets.

The CFTC is aware of the risks facing it. In a note explaining the agency's decision against KalshiEX, Chairman Rostin Behnam warned that approving political event contracts would turn the agency into "an election cop," positioning it far beyond its lawful mandate.

CME, for its part, also opposed the KalshiEX petition to trade election futures, and one of its longtime leaders and a pioneer in the futures market agrees.

At age 92, Leo Melamed, who was named a Lincoln Laureate in 2016, still serves as CME's chairman emeritus, and while he has decades of experience fighting for free markets, he sees election futures as a nonstarter.

"I've spent my entire life literally proving to the world that futures markets are not gambling. They perform an immensely important economic function, like insurance," Melamed told us. Election contracts, he said, are "very, very obviously political and it would hurt the futures markets to host such an idea."

We're with Leo. The nation does not need one more reason to distrust elections, which are fundamental to democratic stability. Nobody should be betting on their outcomes. The stakes for the nation are too high.

Let's take a hard pass on political futures contracts.

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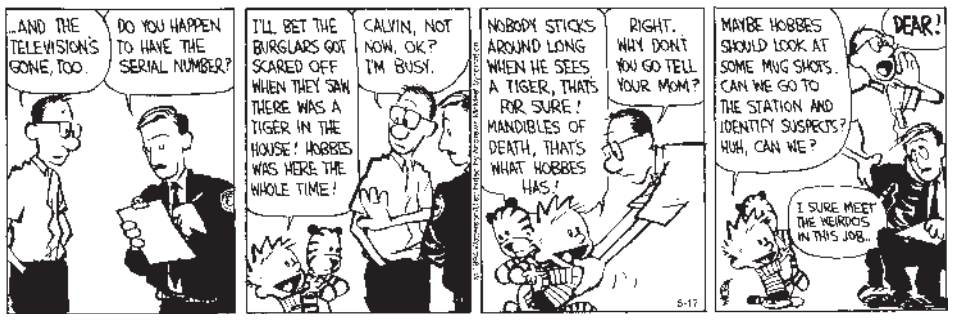
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

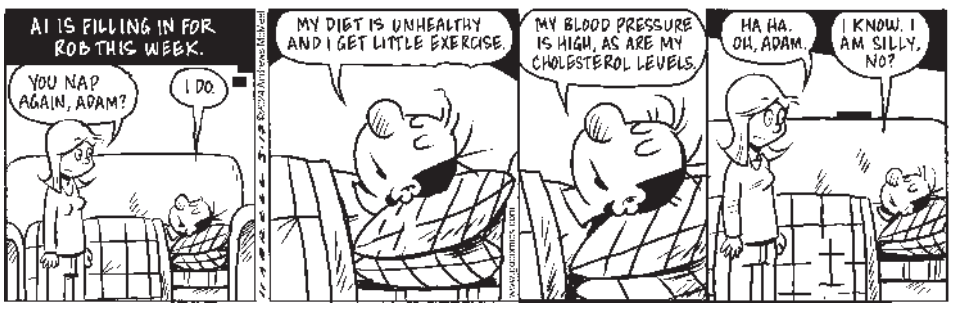

...AND THE TELEVISION'S GONE, TOO.
DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE THE SERIAL NUMBER?
I'LL BET THE BURGLARS GOT SCARED OFF WHEN THEY SAW THERE WAS A TIGER IN THE HOUSE! HOBBES WAS HERE THE WHOLE TIME!
CALVIN, NOT NOW, OK? I'M BUSY.
NOBODY STICKS AROUND LONG WHEN HE SEES A TIGER, THAT'S FOR SURE! MANDIBLES OF DEATH, THAT'S WHAT HOBBES HAS!
RIGHT. WHY DON'T YOU GO TELL YOUR MOM?
MAYBE HOBBES SHOULD LOOK AT SOME MUG SHOTS. CAN WE GO TO THE STATION AND IDENTIFY SUSPECTS? HUH, CAN WE?
DEAR!
I SURE MEET THE WEIRDOS IN THIS JOB..
5-17

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

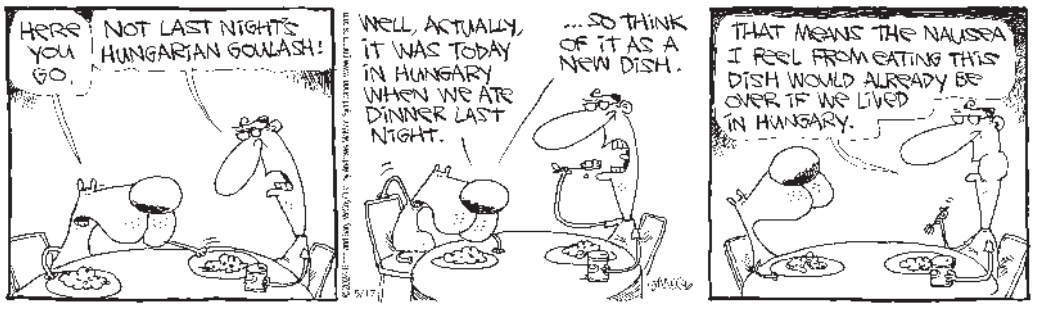
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


AI IS FILLING IN FOR ROB THIS WEEK.
YOU NAP AGAIN, ADAM?
I DO.
MY DIET IS UNHEALTHY AND I GET LITTLE EXERCISE.
MY BLOOD PRESSURE IS HIGH, AS ARE MY CHOLESTEROL LEVELS.
HA HA. OH, ADAM.
I KNOW. I AM SILLY. NO?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


HERE YOU GO.
NOT LAST NIGHT'S HUNGARIAN GOULASH!
WELL, ACTUALLY, IT WAS TODAY IN HUNGARY WHEN WE ATE DINNER LAST NIGHT.
...SO THINK OF IT AS A NEW DISH.
THAT MEANS THE NAUSEA I FEEL FROM EATING THIS DISH WOULD ALREADY BE OVER IF WE LIVED IN HUNGARY.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

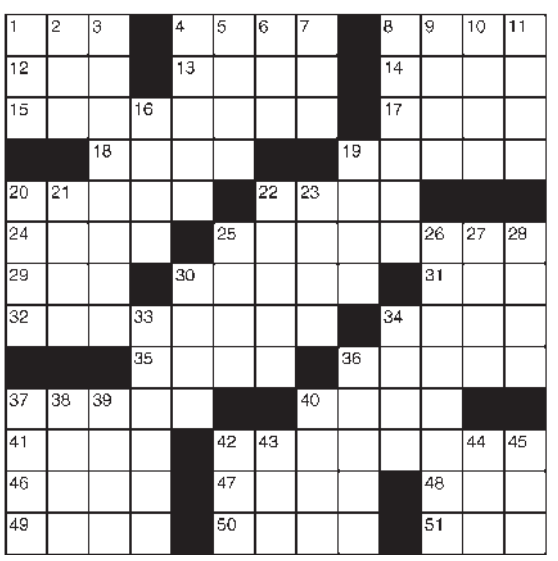
ACROSS
1 Tummy muscles
4 Like dried mud
8 Streetcar
12 Louvre collection
13 Balm ingredient
14 Spanish greeting
15 Unequivocal "no"
17 Cavort
18 Partially mine
19 Cougars
20 Coup group
22 Tournament passes
24 Wild revelry
25 Windbag
29 Away from NNW
30 Skyrockets
31 Debtor's letters
32 Strenuous labor
34 Singer Franklin
35 Bar mitzvah, e.g.
36 Taj —
37 Coffee enhancer
40 Chantilly, e.g.
41 Petty of "Tank Girl"
42 Solid, as abs
46 Spelling-out phrase
47 Shoppe descriptor
48 Conk out
49 PC alternatives
50 First lady Truman
51 Sean, to Yoko

DOWN
1 "Feels so good!"
2 Bikini half
3 More intense
4 "It's a Wonderful Life" director
5 Regrettably
6 Decks in the ring
7 "Indeed!"
8 Songbird
9 Leeway
10 — mater
11 Atlas pages
16 Obligation
19 Church seating
20 Kid around
21 — Minor (bear constellation)
22 Trumpet noise
23 Part of NYC
25 Italy's silhouette
26 Fools
27 "Arrivederci —"
28 Two-way
30 Do laps
33 Exhausts
34 Apiece
36 "This — no sense!"
37 Chowder morsel
38 Historic Parks
39 Idle or Bana
40 Some TV screens
42 Filch
43 Yucatan "Bravo!"
44 Brazilian city
45 Lair

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	L	F	G		B	A	T		R	B	I	S
H	U	L	U		A	M	O		A	U	D	I
A	G	A	R		S	A	O		N	T	S	B
B	E	L	A	S	T		L	S	A	T		
			C	H	E	C	K	I	T	O	U	T
I	C	D	A	Y		C	I	L		N	N	E
O	R	E	O		O	A	T		D	U	D	S
I	S	T		H	I	P	S		D	E	P	O	T
L	O	O	K	A	T	T	H	A	T			
		X	I	I	I		I	S	R	A	F	I
A	B	I	T		M	F	I		O	R	C	A
P	U	N	T		U	R	L		I	C	O	N
E	G	G	Y		M	A	Y		T	O	N	E

Yesterday's answer 5-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nikki Reed, 36; Derek Hough, 39; Trent Reznor, 59; Craig Ferguson, 62.

Happy Birthday: You have more going for you than you realize. Embrace life; don't let it pass you by. Take the plunge and do what motivates you. Get involved, expand your knowledge, skills and experience, and get out and enjoy what life has to offer. This year is about movement, taking a chance and following your heart. It's up to you to make things happen. Stop dreaming and start doing. Your numbers are 6, 17, 22, 29, 31, 34, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Keep moving, but pay attention to detail and oversee every step to ensure you get the most out of your day. Refrain from sharing financial information or secrets to your success, regardless of who applies pressure. Work hard and reap the rewards. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Don't fold under pressure. Clear your head, look at the facts and start your journey. Listen, share ideas and participate in events and activities that interest you. If you are willing to step up and participate, there is plenty to gain. Embrace change and make things happen. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Hide out and accomplish all you can. What you achieve will be impressive and influence how others treat you. A change at home or to how you handle work will turn out better than anticipated. Trust and believe in yourself and your ability to excel. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Establish your intentions, make connections and participate in events to help you excel. Take the initiative, and be the one to motivate and influence what happens next. Feel free to initiate a move when change is necessary. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Oversee every detail. Incorporate wiggle room to offset a wrong move or unexpected adjustment that might cost you. Staying ahead of the crowd is one of your fortes but will require fancy footwork. Stifle anyone who tries to pressure you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Enjoy life. Who or what you encounter will pique your curiosity and encourage you to expand your skills and knowledge. What you add to your resume will enable you to explore your options. A change of pace, place or people will support positive change. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't spend frivolously. Invest your time, energy and cash into getting ahead and securing your position and prospects to promote your desired lifestyle. Pressure tactics won't work, but premium products and offers will. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Build momentum; you will want to continue once you start. Get the energy flowing and see what happens. The people you attract and the opportunities you develop will pave the way to success if you respond quickly. A positive change in your personal life is apparent. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take it easy, be a good listener and don't offer personal information that someone can use against you. Focus on your responsibilities and finish what you start to avoid being judged harshly by someone trying to outmaneuver you. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Engage, experience what life offers and spend time with someone who makes you think. A change to how or what you pursue will be influenced by who you are with and what you do next. Gather information and use your skills to accommodate what's trending. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* If something doesn't feel right, take a pass. Don't be coerced into being a follower. Put your energy into self-improvement, heading in a beneficial direction or walking away from negativity and interference. Be true to yourself and follow your heart. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Stand your ground until you get what you want. Initiate change that will improve your relationships. Evaluate your position personally, financially and professionally, and adjust your lifestyle to fit the circumstances. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are changeable, curious and ambitious. You are innovative and dynamic.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8	4			5	6		9
			2		3	1	4	
					4			
							5	
		7	1			3		2
	9	1		5				
8							9	3
	5			9			1	
					8	2		5

Difficulty: ★★★★ 5/17

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	5	9	1	2	8	4	6	3
6	3	8	4	9	7	2	5	1
1	2	4	6	5	3	7	8	9
8	1	6	9	7	2	5	3	4
3	4	2	5	8	6	1	9	7
9	7	5	3	4	1	6	2	8
4	9	3	7	6	5	8	1	2
5	8	1	2	3	4	9	7	6
2	6	7	8	1	9	3	4	5

Difficulty: ★★★ 5/16

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

BUSINESS CREDIT CARDS Solution: 7 letters

I	N	S	U	R	A	N	C	E	C	N	A	L	A	B
U	W	O	R	K	G	T	S	E	R	E	T	N	I	E
P	S	A	F	O	A	E	S	N	E	C	I	L	M	N
G	T	S	L	F	L	I	G	H	T	Ⓡ	L	O	E	E
R	N	D	W	L	I	M	I	T	Ⓐ	S	N	Y	M	F
A	I	R	A	I	E	C	C	Ⓣ	C	E	R	N	B	I
D	O	A	G	C	P	T	Ⓔ	I	Y	E	E	A	E	T
E	P	W	E	O	R	E	N	Y	T	F	F	P	R	G
E	A	E	U	A	H	O	T	E	R	S	F	M	S	N
Y	Y	R	C	O	R	I	O	E	M	O	O	O	H	I
O	R	K	T	T	R	N	N	W	G	E	T	C	I	P
L	O	E	C	U	T	E	M	A	N	A	T	S	P	P
P	L	E	C	A	R	E	E	R	O	E	N	A	I	I
M	L	E	L	I	G	I	B	L	E	L	R	A	T	H
E	S	A	H	C	R	U	P	R	E	M	I	U	M	S

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Balance, Benefit, Bills, Career, Company, Cost, Electronics, Eligible, Employee, Fees, Flight, Gold, History, Hotel, Insurance, Interest, License, Limit, Loan, Manage, Membership, Money, Name, Offer, Office, Owner, Payroll, Points, Premium, Purchase, Rate, Rewards, Security, Shipping, Statement, Swipe, Track, Upgrade, Wage, Wallet, Work

Yesterday's Answer: Chocolate

The NEW **TELEWORD VINTAGE COLLECTION EDITION #1** can be purchased on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

Tatum scores 25 to lead Celtics past Cavs and into 3rd consecutive East finals

BOSTON (AP)—Al Horford wanted to sathe moment.

With play stopped and the Celtics' victory no longer in doubt, Horford turned in the direction of the sideline, walked a few paces, stopped and extended his hands overhead, bringing an already raucous TD Garden crowd to its feet in applause.

The task was done.

Jayson Tatum had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and Boston beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 113-98 on Wednesday night to advance to the Eastern Conference finals for the third straight season.

Horford added 22 points, 15 rebounds, five assists and six of Boston's 19 3-pointers to help the Celtics post their third consecutive win and wrap up the series in five games.

"We had a great opportunity at home to handle this, and I knew it was going to take a lot more than handling it normally." said Horford, who joined LeBron James and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as the only players 37 years or older to record a 20-point, 15-rebound, five-assist playoff game in NBA history. "It's special. It's something that's hard to do. ... This is another positive step of where we want to get to."

The Celtics will now await the winner of the matchup between the New York Knicks and Indiana Pacers. New York leads that series 3-2.

This will be Jaylen Brown's sixth conference finals appearance and the fifth for Tatum. Tatum said it's proof that the team culture is strong.

"It just shows the character of the team, the organization. People might think it's a given we're supposed to be here," Tatum said. "We're all in this together. ... We're doing something right.

The Cavaliers played extremely short-handed without All-Star Donovan Mitchell (calf), center Jarrett Allen (rib) and key reserve Caris LeVert (knee).

Cleveland stayed close through the first three quarters and pulled within 88-85 early in the fourth. Boston then went on a 13-2 run to take a 101-87 lead with 6:44 to play.

Evan Mobley scored a playoff career-high 33 points and had seven rebounds. Marcus Morris Sr. had five 3-pointers and finished with 25 points.

"I was proud of their effort," Cavaliers coach J.B. Bickerstaff said. "This has been a difficult year for us, for a bunch of different reasons. They never found the time to fold on each other. All they did was find ways to compete."

Cleveland now enters a summer of uncertainty with the futures of Mitchell and Bickerstaff squarely in the spotlight.

Mitchell did everything for the Cavs in his second postseason for Cleveland. He averaged 29.6 points but didn't play in either of the final two games.

The end of Mitchell's tenure in Cleveland could potentially come in the same TD Garden arena where James played his last game with the Cavs before leaving for Miami in 2010.

Mitchell is eligible to sign a contract extension but has not given any indication he's eager to stay or leave Cleveland.

Bickerstaff is completing his fourth full season as Cleveland's coach. Including the 11 games he coached after taking over for John Beilein during the 2019-20 season, Bickerstaff is 170-159 with two playoff appearances.

Asked if he thought he would be coaching in Cleveland next season, Bickerstaff said, "No one's told me I'm not. So I'll keep showing up until they tell me not to."

Much like they did in Game 4 without Mitchell, the Cavs used the 3-point line to keep pace with the Celtics, making 8 of 19 in the opening 24 minutes.

Cleveland started the second quarter by connecting on 4 of 5 attempts from beyond the arc to nudge ahead 46-40. The Cavs also got solid minutes off the bench from Morris, who scored 14 points in his first 12 minutes of action.

But Boston rallied and closed with an 18-6 run to take a 58-52 lead into halftime.

"It made us answer the bell," Celtics coach Joe Mazzulla said. "Guard your yard. The guys did it. It's a credit to them."

Horford said he's most proud of how Tatum and Brown have grown following last season's conference finals loss to Miami.

"I'm very proud of our guys continue to put work in. JT, JB, how they've continued to get better. How no matter what gets thrown at them, they way they're criticized," Horford said. "Our guys continue to work and they continue to think what's best for our group."

AP

Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) drives to the basket against the Cleveland Cavaliers during the first half of Game 5 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series Wednesday, May 15, 2024, in Boston.

MAVERICKS 104, THUNDER 92

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Luka Doncic scored 31 points in a triple-double, and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 104-92 on Wednesday night to take a 3-2 lead in the Western Conference semifinal series.

Doncic, the league's leading scorer in the regular season, had struggled some in the series against Oklahoma City. Playing through a sprained right knee and a sore left ankle, he had averaged just 22 points on 39% shooting through the first four games. He made 12 of 22 field goals in Game 5 and had 11 assists and 10 rebounds for his sixth career playoff triple-double.

Derrick Jones Jr. scored a playoff career-high 19 points and P.J. Washington Jr. added 10 points and 10 rebounds for Dallas, which shot 52.6% from the floor. The No. 5-seeded Mavericks can advance to the Western Conference finals with a win Saturday at home.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 30 points for the top-seeded Thunder, but no other Oklahoma City player scored more than 13 points.

The Mavericks won Game 5 on the road, just like they did in the first round against the Los Angeles Clippers. Dallas held Oklahoma City to 42.5% shooting.

Oklahoma City tried to jump-start its struggling offense by replacing Josh Giddey with Isaiah Joe in the starting lineup. Giddey did not start for the first time in 229 combined regular season and postseason games.

Dallas led by 15 in the second quarter and took a 54-44 edge into halftime. Jones scored 15 points before the break.

Gilgeous-Alexander scored 14 points in the third quarter, but Dallas still led 79-67.

Dallas pushed its lead out to 18 points early in the fourth quarter before the Thunder surged. A 3-pointer by Gilgeous-Alexander cut the deficit to 89-79 with just under seven minutes remaining and forced Dallas to call a timeout. The Thunder never got closer than seven points the rest of the way.

Zach Edey insists there's more to his game than meets the eye as he prepares to enter NBA

CHICAGO (AP —For all he accomplished the past four years at Purdue, Zach Edey realizes there are some huge questions surrounding his game—almost as big as his 7-foot-4 frame.

Though he was the national Player of the Year the past two seasons and led the Boilermakers to the championship game this year, he is viewed as a slow-footed defender who can't stretch the floor on offense, either.

Those are two big marks against him as he prepares to enter the NBA. He also wants to make it clear there's more to his game than meets the eye—or what's on video.

"I'm the college player of the year, but I'm going to the NBA," Edey said this week at the NBA draft combine. "You've got to leave all that behind. I've got to re-establish myself."

Edey is a bit of a throwback with his back-to-the-basket game. But he's entering a league fixated on 3-point shooting and perimeter play, where big men need to be quick on their feet and able to shoot and defend away from the basket.

Edey is also a relative newcomer to basketball, even though he played four years in college. His focus growing up in Toronto was on hockey and baseball until his strike zone grew too large. He eventually wound up in Florida at IMG Academy, where he played one season on the school's top basketball team.

"I'm never going to be the wiry 7-foot guy like Kevin Durant," he said. "I'm a 7-foot-4, 300-pound guy. I'm built to be in the paint, to carve up space, to protect my area. That's what I'm going to keep doing."

Edey's task at Purdue was to post up, work the pick and roll and defend down low. He insisted there's still room in the NBA for players who do those things.

Edey was also adamant there's more to his game than what he showed in college. He insisted he can score from the perimeter, though he made only one 3-pointer and attempted two at Purdue. He got a chance to show more of his skills during drills on Monday.

Edey shot 60% off the dribble, albeit with no one guarding him, ran three-quarters-of-the-court sprint in 3.42 seconds, and had a 31 1/2-inch vertical leap. Not bad for a player who measured 7-3 3/4 with no shoes and weighed 299 pounds.

"I think I need to show people I can shoot the way I believe I can," Edey said. "But I think, for the most part, teams kind of know what I'm good at. Teams have tons of film on me. Obviously, I think I'm quicker than teams think I am. I think I can shoot better than teams think I can. I have to show that. I've been in college four years. They've got a lot of film on me. They kind of know what I can do."

Edey went from an intriguing and unpolished prospect to college basketball's biggest star and the first repeat winner of the Associated Press Player of the Year award since Ralph Sampson won three in a row at Virginia from 1981-83.

Edey withdrew from the draft last year and returned to Purdue. He went on to average 25.2 points and 12.2 rebounds as a senior while propelling the Boilermakers to their first Final Four since 1980. He also became the first national scoring leader since Oscar Robertson in 1960 to take a team that deep in the NCAA tournament. The Boilermakers lost to UConn in the championship game.

Edey scored more than 2,500 points at Purdue, breaking Rick Mount's 54-year-old school record. He had more than 1,300 rebounds and surpassed Joe Barry Carroll's 44-year-old mark. His jersey hangs from the rafters. But for all his accomplishments, the questions loom large.

"It's basketball," Edey said. "It's the same game I've been playing for six years. It's just better athletes, stronger people, taller people. But it's just basketball. Rebounds are still important. Blocked shots are still important. Boxing out is still important. All those things are so important. I think people kind of undervalue those things."

Orioles avoid sweep in 3-2 win over Toronto

BALTIMORE (AP—Adley Rutschman's two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning gave Baltimore a 3-2 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday, enabling the Orioles—yet again—to avoid a sweep.

Baltimore split the two-game set with the Blue Jays—the middle game Tuesday was rained out—and has now gone 105 straight regular-season series of at least two decisions without being swept. That's tied for the third-longest run in major league history.

The Orioles were swept in last year's AL Division Series against Texas, but the most recent time it happened in the regular season was from May 13-15, 2022, at Detroit. The streak almost ended exactly two years later, but after defensive replacement Isiah Kiner-Falefa misplayed Jordan Westburg's grounder for an infield single to start the Baltimore ninth, Rutschman connected off Jordan Romano.

BREWERS 10, PIRATES 2

MILWAUKEE (AP)—William Contreras went 3 for 5 with four RBIs and hit one of Milwaukee's five homers off Martín Pérez in Milwaukee's blowout of Pittsburgh.

The NL Central-leading Brewers won two of three from the Pirates before beginning a season-long, nine-game trip Friday at Houston. The Brewers also will visit Miami and Boston before coming back home May 27 for a four-game series with the Chicago Cubs that marks ex-Brewers manager Craig Counsell's return to Milwaukee.

WHITE SOX 2, NATIONALS 0

CHICAGO (AP)—Korey Lee went 3 for 3 with an RBI, Garrett Crochet tossed five scoreless innings as the Chicago White Sox topped Washington for their second straight win.

Tommy Pham and Andrew Benintendi each singled and doubled for last-place Chicago. Pham drove in the White Sox's first run as they won their second straight series and improved to 11-8 since a 3-22 start to the season. It was the White Sox's second consecutive shutout of Washington after a 4-0 win over the Nationals in the second game of Tuesday's doubleheader.

MARLINS 2, TIGERS 0

DETROIT (AP)—Bryan De La Cruz homered, Trevor Rogers pitched five scoreless innings as Miami beat Detroit.

Miami (13-32) has won two straight and three of four after a four-game losing streak. They shut out the Tigers on Tuesday and Wednesday to win the three-game series.

Four relievers finished, with Tanner Scott pitching the ninth for his fifth save. Two-out singles by Javier Baez and Carson Kelly put runners on the corners, but Riley Greene struck out.

DIAMONDBACKS 2, REDS 1

PHOENIX (AP)—Brandon Pfaadt threw seven stellar innings, Lourdes Gurriel Jr. hit a tiebreaking RBI double in the eighth and Arizona beat Cincinnati.

The D-backs took two of three in the series and five of six from the Reds this season.

MARINERS 4, KANSAS CITY 2

SEATTLE (AP)—The Mariners took two of three from the Royals and have won eight of their last nine series. Seattle will head out on a key 10-game road trip on the East Coast four games above .500 and leading the AL West.

France hit a solo shot off Kansas City starter Alec Marsh in the fourth inning to give Seattle a 2-0 lead. France also homered on Monday in the series opener.

ROCKIES 8, PADRES 0

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Austin Gomber allowed two hits in six innings, Brenton Doyle and Jordan Beck homered and Colorado beat San Diego to complete a three-game sweep with their seventh straight victory.

Gomber (1-2) struck out five and walked two before three relievers finished a four-hitter. It was the first time last-place Colorado (15-28), which has won six road games all season, swept a three-game set in San Diego since 2013.

PHILLIES 10, METS 5

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bryce Harper homered, doubled and drove in three runs, unbeaten Ranger Suárez became the first eight-game winner in the majors and the streaking Philadelphia defeated the New York Mets 10-5.

Cristian Pache added two RBIs for Philadelphia, which has won three straight against the Mets and 16 of 19 overall to improve baseball's best record to 31-13.

RAYS 4, RED SOX 3

BOSTON (AP)—Yandy Díaz snapped a sixth-inning tie with a two-run single and Tampa Bay held off Boston.

Taj Bradley (1-1) pitched five solid innings in his second major league start this year, giving up two runs on four hits and a walk with six strikeouts.

CUBS 7, BRAVES 1

ATLANTA (AP)—Javier Assad pitched six shutout innings and the Chicago Cubs avoided their first sweep of the season by beating Atlanta.

Assad (4-0) allowed just four hits and walked one while matching a season high with seven strikeouts. He lowered his ERA to 1.49 through nine starts.

YANKEES 4, TWINS 0

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Aaron Judge followed a 467-foot home run with three hard-hit doubles, driving in two runs for the New York Yankees in a victory over Minnesota on Wednesday night.

Marcus Stroman (3-2) threw six scoreless innings for his first win in four starts, allowing only a double, a single and three walks as the Yankees kept up their decades-long dominance of the Twins.

ASTROS 3, ATHLETICS 0

HOUSTON (AP)—Framber Valdez struck out eight in seven strong innings and combined with Seth Martinez for a two-hitter, and Houston beat Oakland for their season-high fourth straight victory.

Valdez (3-1) allowed both hits and walked two. The lefthander recorded 11 groundouts.

RANGERS 4, GUARDIANS 0

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Jon Gray pitched four-hit ball into the seventh inning and Texas got two-run homers from Marcus Semien and Adolis García to beat Cleveland, stopping a five-game losing streak.

Gray (2-1) allowed only one runner beyond first base while throwing 94 pitches in 6 1/3 innings. He's limited opponents to seven earned runs in 48 1/3 innings over eight starts since giving up five runs in 3 2/3 innings during his season debut.

ANGELS 7, CARDINALS 2

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Griffin Canning pitched six innings of one-run ball, Nolan Schanuel hit his first career leadoff homer and the Los Angeles Angels snapped their three-game skid with a victory over the St. Louis.

Willie Calhoun had three hits, including an RBI double during the Angels' four-run first, while Zach Neto and Taylor Ward homered later in the Angels' seventh win in 26 games. Kevin Pillar had his fourth consecutive multi-hit game for Los Angeles, which pounded out 14 hits while salvaging the finale of a 2-5 homestand against Missouri's two major league teams.

GIANTS 4, DODGERS 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Logan Webb pitched six scoreless innings and Mike Yastrzemski hit a two-run homer as San Francisco beat the Los Angeles Dodgers to avoid a three-game sweep.

Webb (4-4) limited Los Angeles to three hits, striking out five and walking three to help the Giants snap a six-game losing streak against their longtime rivals.

Celebrating
THE LIFE OF

Margarita Castro Sablan

April 20, 1951 - May 12, 2024

Daily Rosary and Mass for the repose soul of Margarita is offered at 5:30 p.m., except Saturday at 6:00 a.m. and Sunday at 7:00 a.m. at San Roque Church. Funeral services and last respects for our beloved Margarita will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Morgue at 8:00 a.m. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. at the San Roque Church, followed by the Rite of Committal at the San Roque Cemetery where she will be laid to peaceful rest.

For all your love, thoughts and prayers, Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Leilani & Shawn Deleon Guerrero
Children and Family

Benet Seman makes triumphant return

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Benet Seman, third from left, poses with other participants of the CNMI Women's Golf Association May tournament last Saturday, May 11, at the Coral Ocean Resort in Agingan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Benet Seman returned to playing golf last April after 10 years of hibernation.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

Veteran golfer Benet Seman made a triumphant return to the sport she loves by topping the CNMI Women's Golf Association May tournament last Saturday, May 11, at the Coral Ocean Resort in Agingan.

The 72-year-old government retiree shot a net score of 69 to win the monthly ace following a gross score of 99 built around a front and back nine of 50-49.

"I decided to return after the CWGA annual tournament last April. My weekly golfing buddies (Dudus Ladies) encouraged me to return. I left the association 10 years ago when I took on a full-time position," said Seman.

She added that the weather last Saturday was nice but very hot, but the dry course helped her game by adding extra yardage to her shots.

As to who she's dedicating her May victory to, Seman said it would have to go to Chai Omar Castro.

"Prior to this tournament, I told Chai Omar Castro who celebrated her birthday the same day that I would dedicate every bogey to her. That was my game plan, trying to bogey every hole," she said.

On a more serious note, Seman said it's been a while since she broken through a gross 100, which made her gross 99 last Saturday very memorable.

"What was more exciting for me that day was breaking 100s, achieving my goal. It had been quite a while since I scored below that after I started playing regularly again this year."

Sunny Hyun finished second in the monthly CWGA ace with her net 71 followed by third place See Hee Kim's net 74. Lorraine Babauta (net 78), Terry Guerrero (net 80), and Lou Kim (net 83) completed the participants of the May tourney.

The club continues to look for new members as the new season continues. For those interested in becoming a member of CWGA or for more information, contact CWGA president Yuko Togawa at (670) 287-9856, vice president Lorraine Babauta at (670) 287-0621, or treasurer Lou Kim at (670) 783-7317.

TRUSTEE CLUB SILVER SPONSOR

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Joeten Daidai Foundation is excited to welcome Micronesian Brokers, Inc. as a Trustees Club silver sponsor for the upcoming Joeten Memorial Golf Classic. Dennis Yoshimoto, MBI CNMI general manager, presents JMGC committee with the donation of $5,000. The event is set to take place on July 6, 2024 at the Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MSL2 STANDINGS

Old B Bank	10	1	0
Kanoa	9	2	1
Hana	5	3	3
Paire	5	1	5
Matansa	3	1	7
MP United	1	2	8
Shirley's	1	0	10

OLD

From page 20

their feet wet. Paire kept the 1-0 lead deep into the game as Hana strikers continued to fail to convert goals.

When it seemed like all was lost for Hana, Scott Kim found an opening and shot it through to tie the matchup, 1-1, in the 66th minute. It was better late than never and soon Hana took the lead from Paire's grasp as Kim followed it up with another goal in the 76th minute.

Paire had to make a play quickly and Anderson did just that four minutes later for another tie, 2-2. Both teams duked it out on the pitch for the deciding goal to no avail as time expired.

Last Monday, Kanoa slipped past MP United, 2-1.

Kanoa's Donnie Fejeran went straight to business as he put them up on the board just four minutes into the match. MP United quickly scrambled their way on board and tied it up in the 17th by way of Ensan Cui.

Missed opportunities from both ends and long exchanges left them at a stalemate through the duration of the first half and well into the second. Finally, Cui kicked the tie-breaking goal in the 70th minute and it was too late for Kanoa to tie it up as MPU's defense held steadfast until time ran out.

In the standings after Old B Bank is Kanoa with a 9-2-1 record; Hana is 5-3-3; Paire is in the middle of the pack at 5-1-5; Matansa has a 3-1-7 record; MPU is 1-2-8; and Shirley's have won just one game and lost 10.

2ND

From page 20

Marianas Surf Skate League said, "It's a chance for beginners and experts to challenge each other. We're excited for this new category!"

In the inaugural event last year, Sean Gil won first place with a total of 787 points in the finals of the 2/5/3 Olympic skateboarding format.

As he defends his title this year, he said, "I just wanna have a fun time with my friends so I want to start a mind game with them." He practices every weekend and said that he'll try his best again this year.

Sponsors of the event are Marpac, Pokka, Saipan Surf Company, Salty Skin Pacific, Local Bones, Caravan of Food, Mariana Arts, and Department of Lands and Natural Resources-Parks and Recreation.

"We are looking for more sponsors to add additional prizes or donations. Please contact us at marianas.surfskate@gmail if you are interested. Thanks to all our sponsors," said Manibusan.

As for other MSSl events, Manibusan said, "We're excited to announce the 3rd Annual Boogie Down at Obyan scheduled for Dec. 14,2024, surf permitting. Marpac has already signed on as our signature sponsor again. We are very grateful for the community's support. We look forward and are excited to continually supporting our local athlete skateboarders and surfers."

2024

From page 20

Saipan Tribune, "Our companies are excited to once again join forces for the 4th Annual Visa Marianas Classic. This purpose-driven event allows us the opportunity to show our support for Make-a-Wish (Guam and CNMI) and also have a really fun time out on the course. We invite everyone to join us so we can continue to help more wishes come true for our local wish kids."

To register, call (670)-287-4267, email info@marianasclassic.com, or sign up and pay at the IT&E cashier in San Jose.

In the 2022 tournament, Zhi Yun Li won the low gross score category with a 4-under 68. Flor Jones topped the women's low gross with her 86 score.

In the men's double peoria, Joseph Muña won the category with a net score of 69.4. Shirley Sablan took the top prize in the women's double peoria with her net score of 80.

Charles Peters had the lowest gross among employees of Bank of Guam, IT&E, and IP&E. Both he and Ricky Delgado Jr. carded gross scores of 78, but Peters won the corporate challenge on the third playoff hole.

Tatum scores 25 to lead Celtics past Cavs and into 3rd consecutive East finals.

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Benet Seman makes triumphant return.

PAGE 19

Old B Bank atop MSL 2 with undefeated record

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Old B Bank currently leads the Marianas Soccer League 2 with 10 wins, one draw, and no losses.

In their game last May 8, they notched their 10th win after they silenced Shirley's Football Club, 4-0, at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Shirley's were looking to gain their second win of the season, but going up against a formidable opponent that leads the standings, it was a tall order. However, their defense held strong in the first half and managed to silence Old B Bank strikers the whole time. Shirley's also failed to produce, but there was still time in the second half.

Old B Bank though, couldn't be kept at bay any longer. The floodgates opened in the 53rd when John Canape found the back of the net and put them up, 1-0. Just two minutes later, he scored their second goal for a now 2-nil matchup.

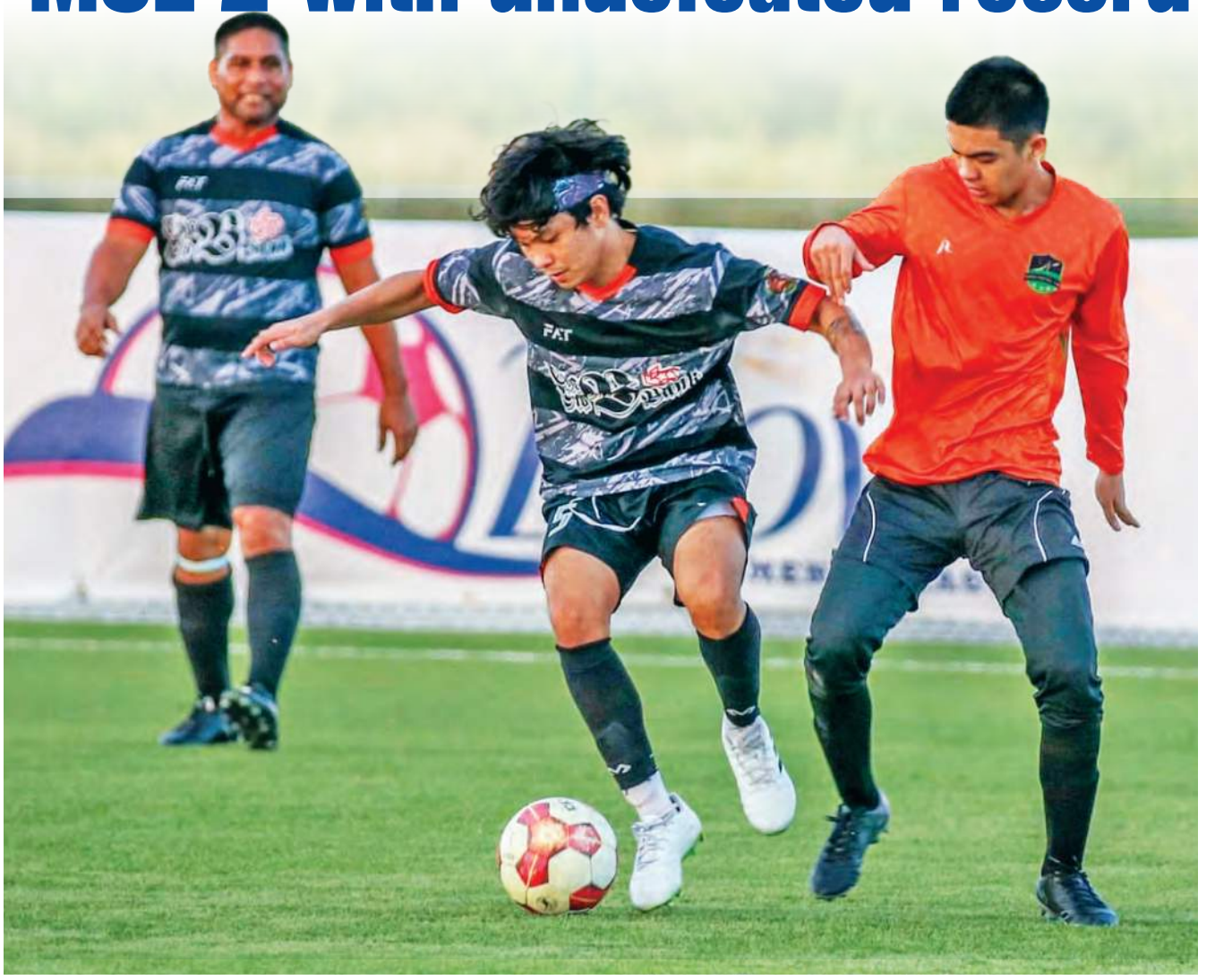
Shirley's now had to play catchup but Old B Bank's momentum continued to propel them forward. In the 74th minute, Lin Xiao Feng widened their lead to three goals, while Canape completed his hat-trick just three minutes later.

Their four goals were more than enough to seal their 10th victory as Shirley's offense stalled until time ran out.

Last Friday, Paire and Hana ended in a stalemate, 2-2.

It was an equal matchup throughout, but Paire had the advantage first. Bryan Anderson broke the ice 10 minutes in while Hana was still getting

See OLD on Page 19



NMIFA

An Old B Bank player untangles himself from a Kanoa FC player during one of their games in the Marianas Soccer League 2 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

2nd Annual Marianas Skate Series set for June 8

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First place of the Marianas Surf Skate League's inaugural Marianas Skate Series skateboarding competition, Sean Gil, poses with second place Kevin Codog, left, and third place Miles Borja during the awards ceremony last June.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The Marianas Surf Skate League's 2nd Annual Marianas Skate Series skateboarding competition is set for June 8 at the skatepark between the Gold's Gym and the Garapan Central Park.

A youth clinic starts at 8am, with a jam session for beginners at 9am. The expert competition is from 10am to 12pm.

This year, there is a new category called the Game of S-K-A-T-E that will be held from 1pm to 2pm.

It's essentially the same concept as playing H-O-R-S-E in basketball. For skateboarding, it's where skaters pull off tricks which their opponents have to match until the S-K-A-T-E is spelled and when the other skater cannot match the other's tricks. They plan on having at least three pairings play at the same time.

There are cash prizes for specific tricks. For the jam session and expert competition, prizes are new skateboards and trophies.

Registration is open at https://xs36bmmc.forms.app/registration2024.

Edward Manibusan, organizer of the event from the

See 2ND on Page 19

LEIGH GASES

N.J. Pino catches some air during Marianas Surf Skate League's inaugural Marianas Skate Series skateboarding competition at the skatepark between the Gold's Gym last June.

2024 Marianas Classic on May 25

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Get your golf clubs and tees ready for the 2024 Visa Marianas Classic Golf Tournament set for Saturday, May 25, at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

The golf tournament is in its 4th year and is jointly hosted by Bank of Guam, IP&E, IT&E, and Citadel Pacific Ltd.

Show time is at 12pm and tee time is at 1pm. Registration is ongoing for $140 which includes a ditty bag and banquet dinner immediately following, with players limited to the first 100. The game format is double peoria.

Winners will receive cash prizes, while a United Airlines round trip ticket and other great prizes will be raffled off at the banquet.

Bank of Guam senior vice president Lesley Leon Guerrero said in an email to

See 2024 on Page 19

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Zhi Yun Li, 2022 Visa Marianas Classic Golf Tournament low gross winner, poses with IT&E president Ricky Delgado, left, and Bank of Guam president and CEO Joaquin Cook, right, during the awards ceremony last Nov. 2022.